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COMING UP!

September, 1982 | Largest Lesbian/Gay Circulation in the Bay Area | FREE

Lesbian/Gay Activists Organize Movement in Mexico

by John Kyper

On July 4th Miguel De la Madrid Hurtado was elected to a six-year term as the next President of Mexico. The result was a "foregone collusion": De la Madrid was the nominee of the official government party, *Partido Revolucionario Institucional* (PRI—Institutional Revolutionary Party) surely, one of the the grandest contradictions in terms ever coined—in what is, essentially, a one-party state.

In a victory statement, De la Madrid claimed that "the [1910] revolution won." Yet the very name of PRI is a symptom that (as in the Soviet Union) the revolution has been obscured by the present-day stodginess and corruption. The ruling party is merely that faction which consolidated power after a prolonged period of upheaval. Founded 53 years ago, PRI has not experienced a serious challenge since the 1940 election.

Although there never was any chance of an upset, gay and other progressive activists in Mexico saw the election as crucial in determining the future of the country. De la Madrid comes from the conservative, Catholic wing of the Party, representing the high private capital running the Mexican economy. Many fear that he could be extremely repressive in the face of mounting militancy from workers, students and *campesinos* (peasants) pressed between rising unemployment, widespread governmental corruption, and one of the world's highest rates of inflation.

One gay activist in Mexico City feels "De la Madrid could turn out worse than [Gustavo] Diaz Ordaz," referring to the President who crushed the student movement during the 1968 Olympics by massacring 500 people in Tlatelolco Square and imprisoning 1,000 more without trial—some of them for ten years. In the ensuing period, repression remained severe, culminating in the murder of 100 people by armed vigilantes, while police watched, during a student demonstration in June, 1971. This latter massacre forced the newly-formed *Frente de Liberación Homosexual* (FLH—Gay Liberation Front) to cancel a planned demonstration and go underground. At that time, political "disappearances" and other similar activities by extra-legal groups with official or semi-official sanction were very common.

Repression has eased during the past five years of the Presidency of José López Portillo—although "disappearances," assassinations and intimidation of activists by vigilante squads are still not uncommon. It has been in this atmosphere that the feminist movement has grown and, in 1978, that the *Frente Homosexual de Acción Revolcionaria* (FHAR—Revolutionary Action Gay Front) first appeared.

Juan Jacobo Hernández, a founder of both FLH and FHAR, refers to PRI as the *"Partido de la Represión Institucionalizada* (Party of Institutionalized Repression)." As part of a regular cycle, with the end approaching to López Portillo's term, police raids and harassment against gays, always heavy, have intensified in the past year. Bars in the capital that used to close at 4 a.m. have had their hours cut back to 1 a.m. Once while I was visiting the *Villamar*, a popular Mexico City bar, a plain clothes agent clumsily attempted to entrap me for drug possession—until I told him I had been working in the San Francisco jails, and he thought he was dealing with a fellow cop. (I never told him I'd merely been a caseworker.) Ominously, one PRI slogan this year is *"Renovación Moral de la Sociedad* (Moral Rennovation of Society)," suggesting that gays could soon become official scapegoats, along with other Leftists.

(continued on page 2)

Consciousness-Lowering Sessions
Ladies Against Women

Photo by Teresa Mueller

by Sue Zemel

Lois Lane eat your heart out. It was everything that a girl reporter could hope for-an exclusive interview with two meticulous members of one of the Bay Area's most politically correct organizations, Ladies Against Women (LAW).

Virginia Cholesterol, dressed in a demure pink angora sweater, with pearls to match her designer wingtipped eyeglasses, and Mrs. Edith Banks, who wore a tasteful polyester moo-moo and an unidentified fur, chatted amiably about the nature of their campaign to "nip womanhood in the bud, and prevent the Feministic blight of blue jeans, flat shoes and female facial nudity from spreading."

"I'm pleased to announce that we are now a national movement with chapters active in seven states," said Virginia, the widow of the late margarine rancher Chester Cholesterol, in her soft but shrill voice.

"And now that we've defeated the ERA we're working to repeal the Ladies vote," said Edith Banks, the devoted wife of Ernest Banks ("whose job is to make money from our money") and the proud mother of a poodle, a pair of Siamese cats, and two pitbulls. "We believe that it is suffering not suffrage that keeps us on our pedestals, and if God had not wanted us up on pedestals he wouldn't have made us shorter than our husbands," she reasoned.

Ladies Against Women was formed as an outgrowth of the Reagan for Shah Committee, a coalition of like-minded groups such as the Moral Monopoly, the National Association for the Advancement of Rich People, Another Mother for World Domination, Future Dictators of America, and the Students for an Apathetic Society. The charismatic Cholesterol, who was already involved in the committee as a volunteer trainee working to become a fullfledged volunteer, was recruited to chair an organization designed to exclusively address Ladies' issues.

"It's a calling..." Cholesterol sighed blissfully. She proceeded to describe LAW's latest fundraising effort—holding bake sales for the Pentagon, "because those Generals really know how to spend money, and we'd like to give them all they can work with."

"We've also been having fashion shows," Edith Banks noted, "and have donated the clothing worn by our models to the Polyester Wing of the Smithsonian." All monies raised go to the Save the Stoles Foundation, one of LAW's sister organizations which guarantees the continued wear of endangered accessories such as alligator pumps, leopard skins, and baby harp seal furs.

In addition to conducting frequent consciousness-lowering sessions, which promote the development of flabby minds in flabby bodies, members of LAW have embarked on a campaign to repeal the U.S. Criminal Code and to institute a national dress code. LAW also supports the establishment of HULA, the House Committee for the Investigation of Unladylike Activities.

At their consciousness-lowering sessions the Ladies lead a series of sweat-free aerobic exercises executed to an expressive Mantra. Cholesterol and Banks were nice enough to recite it while performing prim finger points. "Excuse me Sir, could you lift this please; it's a little too heavy for me..."

Cholesterol presented me with a neatly handwritten list of LAW requests. They include:

* Make America a Man Again—Invade abroad. Stop being so defensive about our offensive capabilities.
* Recriminalize sex. Restore virginity as a high school graduation requirement.
* Free Ladies from Waged Labor. The 59¢ that we earn to the $1 of men's wages is

(continued on page 11)

Office of Citizen Complaints Community response to the Police

by Michael Helquist

Avoid the Collingwood Park area at night. Think twice about being on Valencia and Polk Streets. Always leave the Castro bars early. Don't feel you're safe South of Market. But if you do all of that, you allow police harassment and abuse to shut down your life. But that won't be enough, anyway. It's not where you go; it's what you are.

That's not news to most gay men and lesbians. Other minorities share the knowledge as well. Consider 24th and Mission Streets any weekend night. The police harassment of Chicanos/Latinos there is constant and pervasive. Police brutality stories from the Mission, as well as the Fillmore, Western Addition and Hunters Point neighborhoods, certainly equal and often surpass the recent reports from the gay and lesbian neighborhoods.

If we don't simply abandon the city, what other recourse is there? A coalition of community interests proposes an amendment to the City Charter. The Board of Supervisors has placed this amendment, Proposition A, on the ballot for voters to consider in November.

In 1980 there were 301 registered citizen complaints of excessive police force. Not one was upheld by the Internal Affairs Bureau.

The proposed amendment requires the formation of an Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) within the Police Department. The Police Commission will appoint a civilian director of the office, who will in turn appoint qualified, professional investigators from civil service lists. These investigators will receive and examine allegations of police misconduct. Part-time hearing officers may also be appointed. The OCC will prepare monthly summaries of complaints received and will *recommend* disciplinary measures to the Chief of Police when such action is warranted. Policy changes for the Police Department will also be recommended as appropriate.

Proposition A would *not* establish a civilian review board. The Police Commisson retains that role. The proposition will establish *civilian investigation* of complaints and the possibility of hearings before civilian review officers. This distinction is more that just semantics. The Police Commission, appointed by the mayor, retains its power and authority. Ultimately decisions will be made, as they are now, by the Chief of Police and the Police Commission. Both lead directly back to Mayor Feinstein.

Proposition A has limits to its effectiveness. Fernando Cosio, of Mission Community Legal Defense, is a member of the steering committee directing the Proposition A campaign. Cosio acknowledges the limitations of the proposition, but states, "I think people are anxious to get *any* legislation that includes the premise of civilian review." Amitai Schwartz, a long-time proponent of civilian investigation and review, is a member of the San Francisco Bar Association. Speaking at the initial OCC campaign meeting early in August, he explained, "In some respects it's a compromise. We're operating within the realm of the possible given the city's politics today." Can the OCC make a difference? Under the present system, complaints of

(continued on page 3)

Announcing!!
The 2nd Great Coming Up! Raffle

We would like to announce the Second Great Coming Up! Raffle. This is your chance to win our grand prize—an entire week for you and a friend in beautiful Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. This prize is donated to *Coming Up!* by Great Outdoor Adventures, the lesbian/-gay social alternative. The raffle also gives you the chance at winning one of many other hundreds of valuable and exciting prizes.

We need your support in our raffle. This is it, gang—our major fundraiser of the year. *Coming Up!* is brought to you by a group of hard-working, dedicated, fun-loving lesbians and gay men. We feature interesting, exciting, and yes, sometimes controversial issues in our monthly publication. We believe the gay & lesbian community deserves the best, and the best deserves the support of the community. So, like last year, *Coming Up!* is holding a raffle, and we want all of you to buy a ticket! If we don't get the support we need, we won't be able to keep *Coming Up!* coming out, and that would be very, very sad news. It's that plain and simple!

So this is an alert to the community from all of us at *Coming Up!*. When you go to pick up your copy of the paper at your favorite outlet next month, it probably won't be there. Instead, you can get your copy at the locations listed at the end of this article, where we'll have boothes set up...and be prepared with your dollar when our friendly booth person asks you to buy a raffle ticket. Just think, for only a dollar you get a chance at a trip to Puerto Vallarta for an entire week, with a friend! Of course, buying a raffle ticket isn't mandatory, but think about these facts: you get *Coming Up!* for free every month faithfully; $1.00 is really a small contribution. It's that kind of contribution that we need to keep existing in the community and to keep *Coming Up!* getting to you. KEEP *COMING UP!* COMING OUT...BUY A RAFFLE TICKET!

We need people to work on the raffle. If you're interested in doing this and/or volunteering time & energy, please give us a call at 641-7903, ask for Regina-So-Rare and before you know it, you'll be saying: Puerto Vallarta is closer than ever when you buy a *Coming Up!* Raffle ticket!

For those of you who pick up your copies of *Coming Up!* in the Castro, Church & Valencia areas, here's where we'll have our boothes October 1, 2, & 3 on the corners of: 18th & Castro, Castro & Market, Market & Noe, Church & Market (near Just Desserts), Market & Church (near Church Street Station) and at the Women's Building.

If for some reason you are unable to get your copy, we're open from 9-5pm, Monday-Friday, and you're welcome to drop by our office at 867 Valencia Street. Also, don't forget to come to our Terrific Tuesday Potluck open to everyone on September 7th (see calendar for details). Here's another chance to meet *Coming Up!*, get involved, and buy raffle tickets. Really...buy raffle tickets! And win! See ya then!

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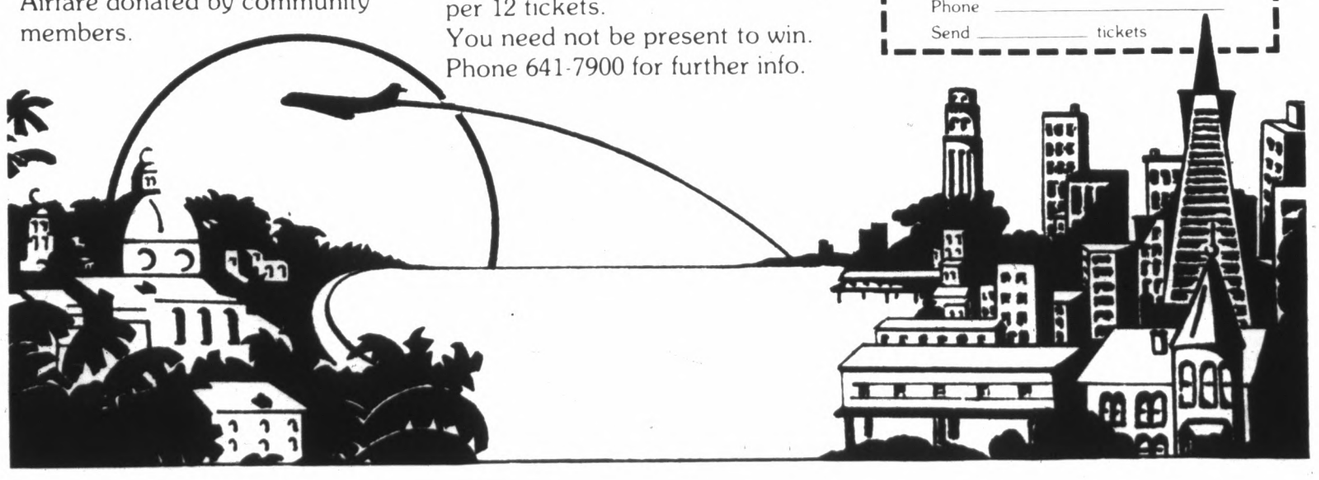

Gay Olympic Games

Photographs by Kim Corsaro, ©1982; Design by Stephan Martin

Clockwise from upper right: Sistah Boom! *leads the Parade of Athletes through the stadium; Olympic veterans George Frean, 1972, and Susan McGrievy, 1956, complete the 3,000 mile cross-country run to light the Gay Olympic Torch; The Board of Directors of the Games celebrates on stage; The Parade of Athletes—San Francisco team; Tina Turner; Balloons!!*

Mexico (continued from front page)

Few political gays in Mexico harbor the illusion that seeking after respectability from a "reasonable" Establishment will impress anyone into giving them any rights—or patronage jobs. A group like Concerned *Prilstas* (PRI supporters) for Individual Rights would be inconceivable. Thus the gay liberation movement is an integral part of the Mexican Left— a Left that is generally more open and mature than anything yet produced by the United States.

Voter absenteeism in the stage-managed elections has sometimes run as high as 90%. The historically-factionalized Left has been slowly moving towards unity, hoping to tap this dissatisfaction by making a strong showing to serve as a counterbalance to the authoritarian tendencies within PRI. Openly gay militants have been active for several years in its two largest parties: The *Partido Comunista Mexicano*, a Eurocommunist-type party that recently merged with four smaller parties to form the *Partido Socialista Unificado Mexicano* (PSUM—Unified Mexican Socialist Party); and the *Partido Revolucionario de los Trabajadores* (PRT—Revolutionary Workers' Party), the Mexican affiliate of the Trotskyist Fourth International.

Increasingly, PRT has become the more attractive of the two, in part because of its more forthright pro-gay stand. The party platform condemned police repression against gays, as well as sensationalistic anti-gay journalism common in many sectors of the press, especially on the Right. In addition, PRT contingents have participated in every gay demonstration since 1978; and PRT candidate Rosario Ibarra de Piedra, the first woman to run for President of Mexico, addressed the Third Gay Pride March in Mexico City in June of last year.

Activists from *Grupo Lambda de Liberación Homosexual*, the lesbian *Oikabeth* and the recently-dissolved FHAR met early this year to form the *Comite de Lesbianas y Homosexuales en Apoyo a Rosario Ibarra* (CLHARI—Committee of Lesbians and Homosexuals Supporting Rosario Ibarra). PRT then nominated six gays as candidates to the federal *Cámara de Diputados* (Chamber of Deputies, the lower house of Mexico's congress) from districts in the Distrito Federal and in Guadalajara—the first openly gay candidates in Latin America. Although they had no chance of breaking the PRI stranglehold on these districts, their candidacies were an important milestone in the movement's development. One of the nominees, Ignacio Alvarez, came to San Francisco in 1981 to address the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day rally.

Harassment was not long in coming: In March a group of 50 young men armed with knives, baseball bats, judo sticks and other weapons brutally attacked a CLHARI campaign rally in Mexico City, injuring at least ten people. Among the epithets shouted as they attacked the crowd of 300 were: *"rojos"* (reds), *"degenerados"* and *"antiprilstas"* (anti-PRI). Five assailants were arrested by police who had belatedly come onto the scene; however, four were soon released, fueling gay suspicions that the attack was fomented by elements within the political police apparatus.

The incident resulted in unprecedented publicity for the Mexican gay liberation movement, as well as support from broad segments of the Left, feminist, artistic and intellectual communities. Many organizations and individuals, including both PRT and PSUM, endorsed a petition of protest that appeared in *Uno Más Uno*, a daily newspaper; and CLHARI received much support from outside the gay community for an angry rally of 600 people held one week after the attack. More than in the United States, the Left in Mexico knows from its own experience of repression that if the government goes first after the gays, *anyone* could be next.

According to official returns, 70% of the electorate voted, and three quarters of those voted for De la Madrid. There are many allegations of irregularities, however. PRT claims that De la Madrid received only 53% of the votes cast, and that Ibarra ran fourth, instead of seventh as placed in the official returns. This difference could be crucial, because a party needs 1.5% of the vote in order to be officially recognized. In Alvarez' Mexico City district, the PRI candidate won, followed by candidates of the *Partido Acción Nacional* (PAN), PSUM and PRT—but Alvarez believes that the PAN candidate may actually have received more votes. In the past the conservative PAN has alleged that fraud has deprived it of election victories.

A postscript: Three days after I returned to Berkeley early in April, I saw the movie *Missing*, the story of a young American who was murdered during the 1973 military coup in Chile because he knew too much. It was for me doubly affecting. Besides being a riveting work, most of the picture was filmed in Mexico City and I recognized many of the locales. For me, it is dreadfully easy to imagine a similar state of seige in Mexico, and the "disappearance" of dozens of beautiful people whom I know and love.

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Office of Citizen Complaints...

(continued from front page)

misconduct go to the Internal Affairs Bureau (IAB) of the Police Department for review and possible investigation by police officers. That means police officers investigate other police officers. For many civilian observers it's difficult to believe that the police can be free of bias in this role. The statistics offer a basis for judgment. Dick Pabich, current coordinator of the Proposition A effort, relates, "In 1980 there were 301 registered citizen complaints of excessive police force. Not one was upheld by the IAB."

Having professionally-trained civilians conduct the investigations would presumably not create the same kind of bias. There would be no concern over future promotions, and there wouldn't be the reluctance to examine a colleague's job performance. Supporters of the proposition believe civilians would be less defensive about police conductin general. Civilians would possibly be more sensitive to community concerns as well.

"This is a moderate measure," acknowledges Pabich. "It won't solve all the problems." The moderation of Proposition A occurs especially *after* an investigation is conducted. The OCC would only be able to *recommend* appropriate action. It has *no* enforcement power. The recommendations would be submitted to the Chief of Police. supporters suggest that if the chief consistently fails to impose discipline, then the Police Commission would have to resolve the expected political protest from the community. But, once again, the mayor appoints the commission.

One aspect of Proposition A might appeal to a number of voters for reasons of economy. The OCC would be more cost-effective than the present system. Written into the amendment itself is the following directive: "The annual appropriations for all costs of the Office of Citizen Compliants shall not exceed sixty percent of the costs incurred by the Police Department Internal Affairs Bureau for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1981, adjusted annually thereafter for inflation." A 40% savings would be required by law. This is possible due to the differences in benefits payments received by the police and by civilian city employees: The police receive nearly 100% of their salaries in benefits, while civilians' benefits approximate only 25% of their salaries. It's cheaper to pay civilians to do the job. Harry Britt's office estimates that the OCC would reduce the cost of investigations by over $350,000 annually. The police officers to be replaced would return to enforcement duties.

This isn't the first time an Office of Civilian Complaints has appeared. Cosio recounts some of the recent history. "The Latino community has been having problems for a number of years with complaints registered with the Police Department. In 1976 the major complaints came out of the Mission. The Latinos were pretty much alone in their work with the Bar Association. When hearings were held that summer about this issue, hundreds of people showed up. These people were victims, parents, and residents. They were all testifying why the Office of Civilian Complaints was needed." After the hearings were held, the commission recommend that a pilot OCC program be established. The Board of Supervisors, in 1977, refused to appropriate money for the proposal, against the recommendation of Mayor Moscone.

Again in 1978, the Board refused the proposal. In late 1978 the Police Commission recommended funds for civilian hearing officers. The Board of Supervisors approved the appropriation in 1979. Then-new Chief of Police, Cornelius Murphy, refused to spend the funds. Supervisor Harry Britt, in 1981, introduced a resolution to have the board establish the OCC. By this time the new Police Commission, appointed by Mayor Feinstein, was opposed to the effort. The City Attorney ruled that the board does not have the power to establish the OCC in the absence of a change in the city charter. As a result, in May of this year the Board of Supervisors voted to submit the OCC to the people at the November election as an initiative measure.

The Proposition A undertaking involves a number of community organizations. The following groups are represented on the campaign's steering committee: Officers for Justice, the ACLU, the gay Democratic clubs, Concerned Republicans, Chinese for Affirmative Action, Congressman Phillip Burton's office, the Latino Democratic Club, the Campaign for Economic Democracy, the *Bay Area Reporter*, the Mission Community Legal Defense, and the San Francisco Bar Association. Speaking at the first public campaign meeting, Harry Britt suggested that,"We have to organize a campaign among those people who have little trust in the system."

"There will be a campaign office opening in September, and there will be an office coordinator," explains Dick Pabich. "At this point we're raising money and seeking endorsements from organizations and individuals. After that will come the work in the streets and the door-to-door canvassing." Pabich is currently coordinating the campaign. Volunteers should contact him at his office (542A Castro) or call him at 863-5560.

The following individuals are among those who have submitted ballot statements in favor of Proposition A: Phillip Burton, U.S. Congress; Art Agnos, State Assembly; Jeff Brown, Public Defender; Mike Hennessey, Sheriff; Jo Daly, Police Commission. A majority statement of support was also offered by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Those submitting statements opposed to the proposition include Mayor Diane Feinstein; Chief of Police Murphy; Rob Berry, Police Officers Association; and Quentin Kopp, President of the Board of Supervisors.

Amitai Schwartz predicts that the opposition will distort the intent of the OCC. At the campaign meeting he offered his own concise summary of intent: "The bottom line on all this is it's a proposal whose intent is to find facts in an unbiased, professional manner."

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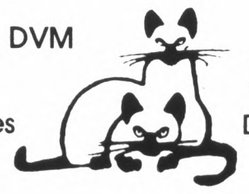

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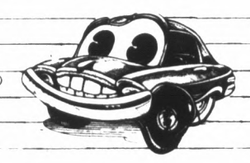

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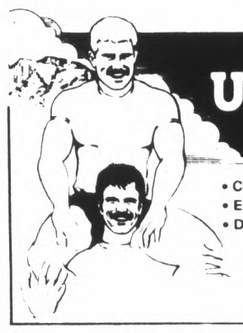

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Letters

WHOSE Racism?

Dear Mr. Reyes:

This is in reference to your article "What America Means to Me" which appeared in the July 1982 issue of *Coming Up!*

Without knowing your age, I can't even speculate as to the actual experiences you have encountered of a "racial/discriminatory" nature.

As time goes by, I am becoming less and less interested in many of the so called "problems" of minorities. It seems to me that, in many cases, they (some of them) want special considerations.

I have no desire to get involved with your sexual orientation as it does not concern me. Whatever you do is your right.

For your information, I am enclosing some letters to the editor which reflect some of my sentiments on the subject of labels. It seems that a good many people will say: *treat me as an individual*—but then they go around and want everyone to know that they have a special "identity."

It can't be both ways!

In your article, at one point, you say: "A lot of well-meaning progressives have suggested that minorities should educate whites about their racism." I ask—**WHOSE** racism?

Perhaps *that* is the question, sir. I don't consider myself to be any kind of racist—but I do tend to react to situations which are forced down my throat (pardon the pun).

If I ever meet you personally, I want to think of you as RODRIGO REYES—not a gay—not a Chicano—not a Mexican-American—or whatever—just Rodrigo Reyes.

From reading your article several times, it seems that you have a tendency to be too preoccupied with racial and ethnic identity. This is extremely counterproductive, I submit.

Sometimes a person is their own worse enemy. Ashleigh Brilliant once said: "I wish that I had been born with a disadvantage so that I wouldn't have to acquire one."

Sincerely yours,
Bill Bradshaw

Rodrigo Reyes responds:

I find it hard to believe that you read my article several times as you say. Had you done that you would have noticed that I ended the piece with the hope that someday we can all be called simply human beings.

Most minority people do not want to be singled out for special consideration. What we want is an end to being singled out for discrimination.

You claim that you are not a racist. The tone of your letter is patronizing and condescending, attitudes characteristic of most *racists*. Your failure to grasp the points I tried to make and your insistence on telling me how to think and feel further illustrates this.

As to your Mr. Brilliant, I submit to you that he does/did not have to acquire a disadvantage. It is obvious he already has one, a failure to live up to his name. The phrase you quote is certainly less than brilliant.

Rodrigo Reyes

Strength in Diversity

This check covers a "retroactive" subscription, since I have been picking up free copies of your paper regularly for the last several months. I'll contine to gather my copies off the streets, so don't enter an official subscription.

I've enjoyed watching this paper grow over the last few years and think you're doing a good job of printing a variety of viewpoints. The month doesn't pass that I don't find some article/letter which thoroughly offends me and, on the other hand, I am often enlightened and otherwise informed about events, political issues and general ideas in those I do like.* Thanks for the fine work.

Marcia Quackenbush

*Perhaps it's more than a platitude that our diversity is our strength!

A Space for Ourselves

My last letter on the subject—I promise. This protracted correspondence is getting out of hand.

Once more re Kevin Berns' petulant letter in the August issue—

Look, frankly, I don't think the clone standard—or any other standard for that matter—needs defending. One either likes a particular lifestyle, or one doesn't, whether it's Castroid-clone or 60s-revival-longhair.

Insofar as replacements for long-lost Lavender U, Berns might start by reading the calendar section of *Coming Up!* instead of writing his "poor me" letters to the editor. I'm not waving any credentials, but, in addition to a health social life on the Castro, I have a circle of friends that goes from Tenderloin drag queens to Marin white-collar professionals, and that's due in great part to *CU!*'s calendar. The opportunities are there, Berns; whether or not you get off your butt and take advantage of them is your choice.

"So why isn't the Castro more of an equal opportunity socializer?" one might ask—and I'd respond by saying that the Castro isn't the Pacific-Union-styled club that some people like to picture it as. Sure, there are a few standards for being successful, where in the city do some sort of standards not exist? South of Market? The Financial District? The Haight? (Can you imagine someone in a three-piece pin stripe being "part of the scene" in the old Question Mark? If so, you've got a vivider imagination than I.) As Berns himself points out, "(w)e all need to create more places where people can be themselves and be appreciated." In his rush to condemn us, he seems to have forgotten that in the Castro *we've done exactly that*. None of us feels we have to be anything other than what we are—and *we happen to like who and what we are*.

Look, to make this real simple: like other forms of life, human being tend to run in groups, and there's no difference between man-made cultural barriers and a pride of lions' instinctual barriers. If you expect to be a social success within any given group, you have to play by the accepted groundrules—or else you get lost in the shuffle. San Francisco's gay community is so large that it's broken itself down into a series of sub-groups, like leathermen and Lutherans and Gays Against Brunch. Each of these groups has its own defined space, whether it's the second floor of MCC or the entire South of Market. For Berns to come along and try to impose his personal values on an existing social order is not only pointless—it's like trying to change ten millenia of human behavior.

This isn't to imply that the social order in the Castro is written in stone—anyone down here will tell you it's changed in the past and will no doubt change again... but *only when the active participants see fit for it to.*

Quote: "Letters like mine aren't about being better..." and I say that's another crock. Like Arthur the Red before him, Berns has whined and moaned about how people haven't responded to him the way he thinks they should, and that instead they should be doing such-and-such or so-and-so. If that's not setting yourself as a social arbiter, I don't know what is. Personally, I find it a little sad that, in his search for a world where people's differences are cherished, he sees fit to trash the hell out of my lifestyle. Look, we clones aren't the majority of the gay population in San Francisco—hell, no one ever said we were—but because the gay community *at large* has chosen Castro and 17th as the Great Gay Gateway is no reason to expect us to fulfill everyone's needs as a result. It just don't work that way—you can't order sushi in a German restaurant without makeing a few personal concessions along the way.

And if people like Berns find those concessions alienating and penalizing—well, not to sound heartless, but that's not my problem. A lot of other people—myself included—find the Castro rewarding and enjoyable. To try and reconcile those two facts is like trying to determine why some people like strawberry ice cream over vanilla.

For Berns to raise the ghost of Stonewall (being the supposed "Stonewall Vet" he claims to be) is equally absurd; he might as well compare apples and oranges. Lifestyles have changed drastically since 1969; not all of us are caught in a time warp. But if Berns thinks that we clones would turn our "tastefully hunky" backs on any kind of political repression, he obviously hasn't been in San Francisco very long. Who made up the majority of participants in the Milk-Moscone candlelight marches? Who was there the night of the Dan White riots? Why do most of the marches start at Castro and 17th? Is it, perhaps, the convenience of the Muni station? *Please.*

So the bottom line still holds, gang—if you can't "go with the flow in the Castro," don't waste your time and ours. I for one am getting real sick and tired of getting kicked in the balls by some jerk who won't allow me the privilege of living my life *the way I want to.* Kevin Berns—like the guy who left the gutlessly anonymous message on my answering machine—demands that people respect him as an individual; if he can't give that same respect to others, then I'm sorry, I just can't be bothered. And for the record, Berns, I cleaned the snot of my nose a long time ago; you might do well to check the other end of your anatomy. For someone who's been screwed by the Castro as much as you say you have... well, we've got plenty of shit to deal with—we don't need to add yours to the pile.

Sincerely,
Steve Martin

Gay Nazis?

"Gay Nazis"? Clearly a contradiction in terms.

I suspect that it was your headline writer and not Arthur Evans who was responsible for this faux-pas. I reread the article very carefully. Some of it, particularly the conclusions, is sheer nonsense. But, Evans writes about "Nazi homosexuals." Never does he suggest that these people possessed what, today, we consider as Gay attributes.

It is not possible to adhere to Nazi tenets and be Gay. It's that simple. If there are some San Francisco men who believe, feel and act like, for example, Ernst Roehm, they, like him, are homosexual. They're not Gay.

Sincerely,
Marvin L. Peebles, J.D.

Repeating the past: Uniforms & Facism

Dear Sir:

In your August issue you published several letters that purported to answer two interesting and thought provoking articles by Arthur Evans and John Kyper, but these letters were in fact only capable of showing ignorance and prejudice. why is it that certain groups (the S. and M. crowd particularly) so often refuse to be criticized or take criticism as negatively as they do, when they don't hestitate to proselytize a life style that may be aberrant to many? I personally believe that everyone has a right to express an opinion as long as it is not destructive, and I must say that although S. and M. devotees insist that their practices are only performed by consenting adults, they do not serve constructive purposes, since their goal is not love but selfish pleasure. Anyone who thinks at all knows that he must limit himself if he wants to survive; so I choose to draw the line of my own pleasure before the thrills of sado-masochism. But this, of course, is a private position and I do not force others to follow me. No one can deny, however, that sadism's premise is to inflict pain, wehther for pleasure or not; and when the goal is pain, the ultimate goal is not far from Nazi methods and beliefs. So, if the shoe fits...

Although Mr. Evans' final question in his article, "Do fascist fantasies help pave the way for fascist politics?" may have been too hastily preceded by an easy equation, it also points out to a very real phenomenon that has been documented by serious researchers, and that is, the overriding importance of uniforms in violence. One may ask further, what kind of military organization can be functional without the use of uniforms? Surely, one needs not be reminded that military groups have no peaceful intention in mind, even if, as they often claim, they are a deterrent to violence.

But I must hurry to say here that I am not against people who wear leather (for leather can be just as enjoyable to wear as any other clothes), as Mr. Stallings believes Arthur Evans is; but I am against what Mr. Stallings is against (and Mr. Evans would probably concur with me here)—and that is, stereotyping. The rub is, how can one avoid stereotyping if he dresses just like the next person, for even Mr. Stallings must admit that there is not much variety in the leather costumes and that they have become not much more than uniforms—in fact, sadly enough, they particularly represent the S. and M. persuasion. Indeed, there are even gay establishments that refuse entrance on certain nights to patrons who are not wearing leather—a form of discrimination which I find particularly distasteful. And, without denying Mr. Stalling's unfortunate familial experience during the Second World War, these occurrences do not make him a better authority on Nazism or fascism for all that. At least Mr. Evans has read a few books on the matter and does not simply react emotionally.

I have myself grown up in Europe during the Hitlerian disaster, but I don't claim to be an expert on bigotry and narrow-mindedness because of it. However, granting that intolerance gave Hitler the strength he needed and that intolerance was the product of a complex socio-economic situation as Mr. Eric Jackson pointed out, even Mr. Stallings must admit that Hitler's party's rise to power was greatly facilitated by his cunning use of military symbols and paraphernalia. Hence, such a question as Mr. Evans posed in his article is pertinent in the light of the past; and whether one agrees with him or not, one must accept his criticism of a segment of gay life as having a serious basis and hope that it will lead to further research. One can, of course, and the likes of Mr. Stallings and others will all, claim that there is no parallel between Hitler's Germany and the U.S. of the 1980's, but a simple look at the recrudescence of racist groups and Nazi organizations around this country only shows that fascism is unfortunately not dead. Moreover, one may ask, how do these groups dress? In uniforms. Coincidence? Hardly.

What Mr. Evans is saying is indeed interesting and intelligent as well as worth our perusal and appraisal. However hasty he may sometimes be in his conclusions, Mr. Evans has not shown to me the blatant prejudice and strident comments of his detractors. One of those, Mr. Jackson, who claims to know logic better than Evans, does not seem to understand the meaning of name-calling since he refers to Evans as "The Red Queen" (a title that Mr. Evans does not use in his authorship of the July article and which is therefore irrelevant to a critique of the same), thereby trying to besmirch Mr. Evans' ability to express a position; whether it be valid or not, Evans' article is at least thought provoking and constructive since it attempts to warn us against making the mistakes of the past.

Finally, the illiterate reply to Mr. Kyper's article only needs a show of contempt, if it were not that Heidi Gosseler exemplifies such remarkable ignorance, rudeness and lack of sensitivity that one may flounder wondering what possibility of change for the better we may still have in this country when such ignoramuses as Heidi Gosseler can still take such positions and can even find a forum to vent their ill-thought and narrow-minded rantings. Therefore, reluctantly, I must answer that letter here by confessing to being quite tired of the prejudiced and fascistic statement, "Love it or leave it." Such know-nothing attitudes lead only to the perpetuation of serious errors that our government as any other in the past and the present has shown capable of making, and that as long as our government can do no wrong, as Heidi Gosseler believes, it can just as easily become fascistic with Gosseler's total approval and Mr. Jackson and Stallings' dismay and disbelief. Only if we allow fair criticism and refuse to make the same mistakes as others have in the past, can we hope for a better future. Santayana said it a few decades ago when he insisted that we are doomed to repeat the past as long as we don't learn from it; and although he has been quoted over and over again, ironically, his remark seems to be doomed to be forgotten—at least politically. May I remind Heidi Gosseler that one may, even must, criticize this country because he or she sees in it a creative and constructive potential that is being wasted; and that as long as we have astute and positive criticism we shall have hope for a truly democratic government not one that the moral majority (which Gore Vidal qualified truly as being neither) would want us to conform to.

Sincerely,
John Swift

Name Calling

Well, well. There's been a lot of name-calling in *Coming Up!* lately. "Nazis!" lefties scream at leathermen. "Go back to Russia where you belong!" interject the clones. I guess we really do come from every background and persuasion, don't we?

To those gentlemen from Castro and Folsom streets who've been writing, I have little to say. Castro Street seems little different from Union Street to me these days. At least on Castro, renditions of nude men are draped over everything from birthday cards to candy dishes; I really do enjoy ogling the male body. But glitzy junk is still glitzy junk. And leather clothing looks uncomfortable to me.

More importantly, many gays from all over the city don't seem to give a damn about anything other than homophobia. I would think they could understand how racism or sexism feels, by extension. But they don't. So I don't try too hard to communicate with these guys politically. We share one incredibly important common ground: our hatred of straight oppression. But that's it.

Instead, I'm talking here to other progressive gay men. Even within ourselves, we're a motley crew: radical fairies and Marxists, anarchists and artists. You can't tell the players without a program. There's a larger concern uniting us, however: a passionate belief that people should share the power equally—and that there are powerful people who will use racism, sexism, and any other tool they can invent to keep us from getting our share.

I think we're wasting energy when we rail furiously against clones and leathermen. They are not our oppressors, no matter how oppressive the atmosphere in their bars may seem to me. Some clones and leathermen *are* leftists, too; I would bet some of you reading this fit more than one category. This is not to say we should ignore a bar with a racist entrance policy or a gay man who sniggers about women. But that's when we should fight other gay men, not before.

The most disturbing part of town is not South of Market, but just north of it. Castro clones may seem conformist, but executives in the Financial District look far more alike. We may curl our lips at a gay man living in his rented Victorian flat among carefully-cultivated antiques, since so many people of different skin colors and values live on top of each other. But it is the executive who lives in bloated splendor. There's nothing wrong with reasonable comfort—it's just everyone should have it, that's all.

Of course there are a few gay men who use what power they have to oppress others. But we're badly confused if we look at the disenfranchised men on Castro or Folsom and see nothing but money-hungry capitalists or decadent Nazis. Tourists drive through the Castro and scream about depraved homosexuals taking over. Politicians scowl at Folsom and complain gays are going too far. These homophobes are insisting gays are all alike, and one individual represents us all. But, if that's so, aren't we leftists being a little homophobic ourselves? Well, sorry. Now I'm name-calling. But, still: would these guys be the target of our hostility so consistently if they were *not* gay?

Perhaps someday—let's say in the 23rd century—society will be truly egalitarian, and we'll turn and see some gays hording money and power. Then they'd rightly feel the brunt of our criticism. But, until then, there are far more serious crimes to fight.

Last spring I helped organize a gay and lesbian march against Reaganism. I was skeptical about how many men would participate and got more skeptical after each time I tried to leaflet on Castro. But come the day of the march, lo and behold! There were nearly as many men as women participating. Some looked like clones, maybe one or two were in leather, a lot looked like hippies, and someone was in drag, riding a bike. When it came down to it, we mostly just looked different. But all of us were delighted to have a chance to be screaming about Reaganism.

I learned a lesson that day. There's a helluva lot of progressive gay men in the area, happy to do political work when we can. Maybe we should go visit the Castro when we want to see gay men crawling all over the place. (And to buy glitzy junk, of course. Otherwise, let's stay away. People aren't going to change because we're screaming at them.

We have an excellent chance in the Bay Area for getting together, rather than searching for each other in some God-awful bar. We can participate in political actions. (Nearly every protest here has a gay and lesbian contingent.) There are numerous gay/lesbian political groups to join. If we don't like any of them, we can form our own. (Lord knows this happens week in and week out anyhow). And we can do volunteer work for this paper, which is certainly an alternative to the *Voice* or the *Sentinel* or the *B.A.R.*

We can keep going to the Castro or South of Market and getting angrier and angrier with other gay people, or we can participate in groups that serve our needs better. It seems to me that's an easy choice.

David Danielson

(continued on page 9)

Letter Info

If you'd like to write to us, please try to send a typed, double-spaced letter if possible. Keep it as short and concise as you can, since we publish letters space permitting and reserve the right to edit for length. All letters must be signed, but we will withhold your name if you wish.

Mail your letters to: Coming Up!, 867 Valencia Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Attention: Letters. Our deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

COMING UP! SEPTEMBER

1 Wed

Gay World Series VI competition begins at 10:30am, Balboa Park (Ocean & San Jose) and continues thru the afternoon. Food and drink available. Also an evening party for players, friends and fans. Pilsner Inn, Church near Market.

Open Mike For Women! Come strut your stuff! Poets, comics, jugglers, musicians, magicians, others. 8-10pm. SF Women's Bldg. Come at 7:30 to be on the program or call Deena at 431-1180.

"Menage a Trois II"—join the Stonewall Gay Demo Club, the Assoc of Lesbian & Gay Asians, and Black & White Men Together at the Endup for a buffet and dance party. $2, 8pm-2am, 6th & Harrison, SF.

2 Thurs

Gay World Series: 1st round of the Consolation Bracket competition begins at 10:30am at Balboa Park, continuing thru the afternoon. Food and drink available. There will also be a Welcome Party for World Series VI at Moby Dick thruout the evening, 18th & Hartford, SF.

"Baby and Deisel: A Little Nervy, Dontcha Think?" Marian Michener and Jean Swallow read funny, mushy, political stories including "Just Another Girl Meets Girl Story" and "Love Poems (A Story)." Old Wives Tales, SF. 7:30pm, $2-4SL, RCC w/24 hr notice.

***Swingshift*, all-woman jazz quintet,** marks the end of summer vacation and swings into another season along with Idris Ackamoor at the Golden Gate Park Bandshell. 2pm, no charge.

The Gay Art Glass Guild, in conjunction with the Gay Olympic Games, present an exhibition of recent work at Castro Village Mall. Slumped and stained glasswork thru 9/5. 12-7 daily, 2275 Market at 16th St.

Greg Day for Supervisor Campaign Opening Party, with comic Robin Tyler, Foodsexual Carol Roberts, Poet Tede Matthews, activist Mary Dunlap and others. Amelia's, 647 Valencia, SF. 9pm-1am. $3-$10.

Eldercollege, the new college for people over 60 at SF State, starts today—a chance for elder citizens to take any course offered without passing entrance exam, have full use of campus facilities... all for free. Complete info: 469-1684.

Latin & Brazilian jazz with *Chevere* at Erles Solano Club, 1403 Solano Ave, Albany. Details: 524-9314.

3 Fri

Gay World Series VI. 3rd round competition begins at 10:30am at Balboa Park, continuing thru the afternoon. Food and drink available. That evening The Stables, 7th & Folsom St. welcomes players and fans for an all-evening party.

Pen and Ink drawings by Jean Van Slyke from the Matriarchal Tarot by Shekhinah Mountainwater and Ffiona Morgan. Laughing Goddess Grotto, Oakland, 4-9pm, Mon-Sat Thru 9/21.

A school for children of lesbians. A mtg for those interested in organizing and working in a school offering radical, womanist woman-centered education. Junior high especially. 7-9pm. Call 547-4235 for location and info.

Girlfriends, a rock and roll band featuring both oldies and newies plays at the Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm, $4-$5.

Black Mass (Leather Night) with special guests *The Flirts* (hit song "Passion") DJ Craig Morey and lights by Jim Feldman. $5 members/$8 guests/$12 gen. Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St, SF.

The Blues: Photography by Michelle Vignes, documents the musicians, their families & friends of the Oakland Bay Area Blues scene in a dramatic exhibit. 9am-5pm, at 1950 Franklin Street, Oakland. Thurs 10/15.

4 Sat

Gay World Series VI Finals! Championship games to begin at 10:30 at Balboa Park, continuing at 12:15 & 2pm (also 3:45 if needed to break a tie). Food and drink available. Come on out and watch the action!

10K Breakers to Bay Run opens the 30th Annual Sausalito Art Fest. The race begins at 8:30am at Fort Cronkite Ranger Station. Entry fee $8, includes admission to festival. Shuttle service provided. Entry forms & info: Sausalito Chamber of Commerce, 332-0505.

Gay World Series Banquet at The Trade Show Center, 8th & Brannan. Cocktail hour, 6pm, dinner (catered by Upton's) at 7pm, interspersed with entertainment, the awards ceremony, and the drawing of the winning raffle ticket for a Dodge Miser Truck. Tickets $15, must be purchased prior to the banquet. Info: 621-3788.

Gwen Avery brings her wonderful voice, wit and charm to Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm, $4.50.

***Raskidus & the Roots Connection*—**reggae music to liven up your evening! La Pena, Berkeley. 9:30pm, $5.

Wimmins Dance Jam. Dance in a large space that is smoke and alcohol free! Variety of taped music including Disco, Motown, New Wave, R&R & contemporary wimmin. 9:30pm-12:30am, $3. 2547-8th St, Berkeley. Info: Shiner, 845-6304.

Viola Wills, in the West Coast Premier of her latest release, "Climb Every Mountain," appears at the Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St, SF. DJ—Tommy Williams. $10 members/$15 guests/$20 gen.

West Coast Choral Festival!! SF Lesbian Chorus, SF Gay Men's Chorus, SF Lesbian & Gay Men's Community Chorus, Temescal Gay Men's Chorus, Gay Men's Chorus of LA, Gay Men's Chorus of Orange County, Santa Barbara Gay Men's Chorus, Vancouver Men's Chorus, Portland Gay Men's Chorus, Seattle Gay Men's Chorus, Denver Gay Men's Chorus—all of them!! 2pm, at SF Nourse Auditorium, Franklin & Fell, SF. $5 at door.

5 Sun

"Kick 'Em Out" Walk and Run for Women's Rights. California N.O.W. sponsors a 10K walk and run to raise money to defeat anti-E.R.A. legislators across the country in the upcoming Nov. elections. The Walk/Run-a-thon begins with a kick-off rally at 10:30am, in Provo Park, Grove St., Berkeley. To register to walk or to volunteer call 387-2720 right away!

1st Annual Feminist Freedom Fair, featuring rides, booths, entertainment, crafts, raffle, prizes and more! Held in conjunction with the California N.O.W. "Kick 'Em Out" Walk and Run for Women's Rights. 10:30am & thruout the day at Provo Park, Grove St, Berkeley.

"Love Forever With Massage," a discussion with deep massage authority Jack McConnell at the G40 Plus Club, a social group for gay men over 40. 1668 Bush, 2pm.

Full Moon Potluck. Bring a dish and meet the staff of Studio W! 2-5pm, no admission.

Rosselli for College Board Beer Bust, 4-7pm, TRAX, 1437 Haight St. Free admission, all beer proceeds to go to the campaign.

The "Supreme" Diana Ross, in a tribute to her music from the 60s, 70s and 80s as well as over 2,000 slides from 15 live concerts. At Different Strokes, 1550 California St. 6 & 10pm, $5.

Sunday Revival Tea, with guest Edwin Hawkins and Friends singing *Oh Happy Day* and their new hit single *Tomorrow*. DJ—Mike Lewis. Wear your Sunday Meetin' clothes for this jubilation. Serving fried chicken for all! $8 members/$12 guests/ $15 gen. Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St, SF.

New Gay Fiction—British writer Peter Robins reads some of his short fiction. Unitarian-Universalist Gay Caucus, SF. 9:30am.

The Wizard of Oz, *Singing in the Rain,* & *Meet Me In St. Louis*—3 of the greatest musicals ever at the Strand, SF. Info: 552-5990.

Third World Women's Cultural & info sharing Potluck/Brunch. 1-6pm, 755-54th St, Oakland (nr Grove). More info: 652-5128.

6 Mon

Grassroots Graphics, including the basics of layout, paste-up and design. Intro workshop to a series of 3 5-week classes for women. With the Women's Press Project, 532 Valencia, SF. Workshop fee: $5-$10SL. Info: 431-6210.

Contact Improvisation—Labor Day Jam. 7:30-10:30pm. Sponsored by SF Men's Contact Group at Mariposa Studio, Project Artaud. Open to all contactors, men and women. Donation. Info: 929-1506.

***"Fifty Years of Broadway*—1932 to 1982,"** stars Paul Attinello & Mary Jo McConnell. Chi Chi Theater, 440 Broadway, 8pm, $4. Res: 392-6213. Tonite, 9/12 & 13.

Meet the Candidates Night—Stonewall Gay Democratic Club's first city-wide endorsement mtg. All candidates for Board of Supervisors, School Board & Community College Board will be there, the pubic & questions are welcomed. 7:30pm, SF Women's Bldg. Further info: 626-1245.

7 Tues

Mariah Wilderness Expeditions, California's 1st women-owned whitewater raft company offers a special 5-day raft trip for women over 35 yrs on the Rogue River in Oregon. Sept 15-19. For further info contact Mariah, P.O. Box 1384, El Cerrito, CA 94530, (415) 527-5544.

Learn to work an offset press! Introductory workshop to a 4 month printing class for women with the Women's Press Project, 532 Valencia, SF. Info: 431-6210. Workshop fee: $5-$10SL, 7pm.

Community College District offers classes on Sign Language, Marketing & Promoting Yourself, Home Repair & Maintenance, Avoiding Math Avoidance, Creative Writer's Workshop, Intro to Real Estate, Law for the Layperson, Gardening Skills, and Self Defense free in the Castro at Everett Middle School. The semester starts today. For details on these open-entry classes, call the John Adams Center at 346-7044.

Photo by Irene Young

Cris Williamson • Sept 10

Women of Color workers of the West Coast Women's Music Festival come to a community meeting at the SF Women's Building Ibsen Hall, 7:30-10:30pm. Gathering is for discussion of issues and concerns about the Festival. All are welcome to come and share. See statements & story on page 12 for further details.

Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club interviews candidates for office. The public is invited. 6:30pm, Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market, SF.

***Coming Up!*'s "Terrific Tuesday" Potluck!!** Celebrate another issue of *Coming Up!* Meet the staff, see what we're all about and how you can help out thru our volunteer program. Or just bring a dish and help us all pig out! 6:30pm, 867 Valencia (Btwn 19th & 20th).

"The Picnic Series"—paintings & works on paper by Roland Petersen at the Rorick Gallery, 637 Mason at Sutter. SF. Tues-Sat 10am-6pm

***Babelogues* Revisited:** Story-poems on women's experiences with the patriarchy, reading by Jacqueline Elizabeth. 7pm, $2, women only. RCC by 9/5. ICI—A Woman's Place, Oakland.

"Has Gay Liberation Lost Out to Gay Rights?" Dennis Altman, author of *The Homosexualization of America, The Americanization of the Homosexual,* and other books on gay liberation addresses the question. 7:30pm, $1. Modern Times Bookstore, SF.

Val Diamond, SF's favorite cabaret performer appears at the Boarding House, 901 Columbus Avenue at Lombard. 8pm, $6.

8 Wed

"Moods of Mythology," the photographic works of Nina Glaser on display thru Sept at Exposé Gallery. Hours are 10-7 M-F; 11-5, Sat.

"Gross Lesbos," an evening of comedy with Carol Roberts, foodsexual & Lea Delaria, "Fuckin' Dyke." 9pm, Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia, SF.

9 Thurs

Introduction to Faerie Tradition Witchcraft, presented by members of Korythalia, a Bay Area Coven. 7pm, $4. Unitarian Center, preregistration is required.

Countervision: A Photojournal of Cultural Diversity in the Community of Women. The Women's Photography Workshop sponsors a slide show of their work for the benefit of a new women's photography journal. All other women photographers interested in showing their work should arrive 30 minutes early and bring up to 5 slides to share. 7:30pm, $2-$4SL. Valencia Rose Cafe, SF.

Lonnie Barbach reads from and discusses her new book, *For Each Other: Couples and Loving,* on how women's attitudes towards sex affect our selves and our relationships (heterosexual and lesbian). Especially for women. 7:30pm, free, Old Wives Tales, SF. RCC w/24 hr notice.

The Life & Times of Woody Guthrie thru song and story. Lenny Anderson, Art Peterson, Bruce Green & Ed Robbins present *The Woody Guthrie Show,* 8pm, La Pena, Berkeley.

"Women in Rock from the 50's to the 80's." Rock out to the best of your favorites—from "girl" groups to New Wave Women at a taped dance for Mainstream Exiles. Guests appearance by local women comediennes. 8pm-? Amelias, 647 Valencia, SF. $2-$4SL.

OPTIONS for Women Over Forty monthly mtg, 6:30pm at 33 Gough St. "We'll Remember in November—a Woman's View of Election Issues." Rides home arranged, open to ALL women.

Furnituremaking and Woodworking—a free class for beginning & experienced woodworkers, 6:30-9:30pm, Tues & Thursdays, starts tonite. For info call Debey Zito, 648-6861.

South of Market Neighborhood Association forming! For more information contact Kerry Bowman at The Ambush: 863-9727.

— 5743 · JEWISH HIGH HOLIDAYS —

Celebrate the New Year, 5743, with the Bay Area's Congregation of Lesbian and Gay Jews

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ROSH HASHANAH:
Friday, Sept. 17, 7:30 pm
Unitarian Conference Center
Main Sanctuary
Franklin at Geary, S.F.

Saturday, Sept. 18, 10:00 am
Jewish Community Center
3200 California, S.F.

ALL SERVICES START PROMPTLY

Sign language interpreted

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YOM KIPPUR:
Sunday, Sept. 26, 7:30 pm
Kol Nidre
Unitarian Conference Center
Main Sanctuary
Franklin at Geary, S.F.

Monday, Sept. 27, 10:00 am
Unitarian Conference Center
Main Sanctuary
Franklin at Geary, S.F.

Yizkor and Ne'ilah (Memorial Service) 5:45 pm
Unitarian Conference Center
Main Sanctuary
Franklin at Geary, S.F.

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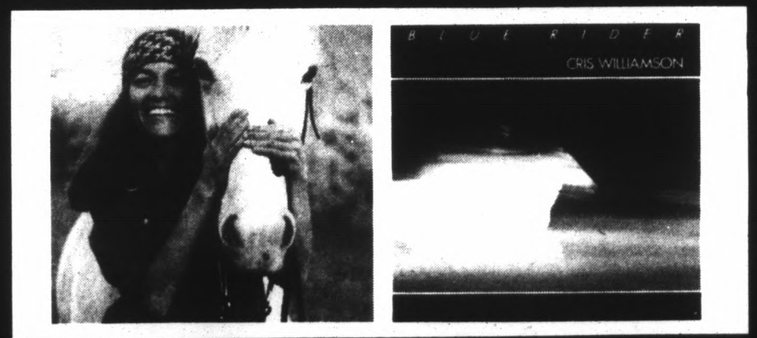

A STUNNING NEW ALBUM BY CRIS WILLIAMSON

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Reserved seating. Tickets $10.50 orchestra, front balcony; $9.50 back balcony ($5.25 under 16, over 60, Disabled). Available at BASS & Olivia Records. Mail order before September 3: send SASE to TIX Olivia Records, 4400 Market St., Oakland, CA 94608.

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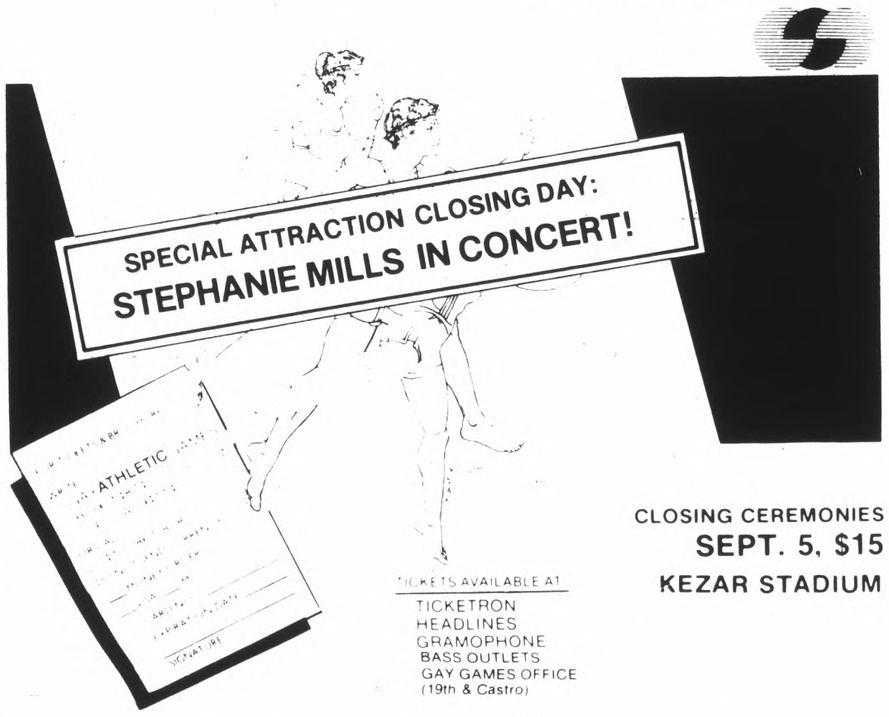
Temescal Gay Men's Chorus
Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles
Gay Men's Chorus of Orange County
Santa Barbara Gay Men's Chorus
Vancouver Men's Chorus
Portland Gay Men's Chorus
Seattle Gay Men's Chorus
Denver Gay Men's Chorus

COMING UP! SEP

Photo by Deborah J. Crable

Sweet Honey in the Rock
Aug 11 & 12 **A Benefit for**
The Women's Party for Survival

GAY ATHLETIC GAMES I
SAN FRANCISCO 1982



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THIRD ANNUAL WEST COAST WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL

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Accessible to disabled women;
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Food and childcare provided;
Boys under 10 welcome.
There will be some Woman-Only space.
Craftswomen invited to display.

LIMIT IS ONLY 4000, SO ORDER EARLY!

Entertainment includes:
Margie Adam
Meg Christian with Diane Lindsey
Kay Gardner (Maine)
Robin Tyler
Bay Area Women's Philharmonic
Kellie Greene (Los Angeles)
Orquesta Sabrosita
Silvia Kohan with Mariko Aratani
The Alberta Jackson Band
Rosy's Bar & Grill (K.C.)
And from New York –
Alix Dobkin
Carol MacDonald **AND ISIS!**
The Harp Band
Edwina Lee Tyler & A Piece of the World
Deuce
IBIS & Mary Watkins
Cathy Rose Salit

TICKETS: $80-$100 sliding scale; weekend passes Fr. through Sun. $60 - $75. Children 8 and under free; 8-16, $20 to help defray food costs. All children **must** be preregistered. U.S. currency only. **NO PERSONAL CHECKS** After Aug. 20.; Money Order, Certified Checks, Cash Only. For tickets visit or send **self-addressed, stamped envelope** to:
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4 day passes also available and all tickets sold at the gate are CASH ONLY, and with an additional fee of $10.

10 Fri

A Conversation with Joan Didion and John Gregory Dunn, along with Diane Johnson. Spons by the Friends of the SF Public Library, Second Annual Literary Lecture Series. Benefit for Public Library's free programs. Davies Symphony Hall. $10 & $8. Res: 431-5400.

"Under One Woman," an exhibition of work in soft sculpture, hand-made paper and mixed-media by Joan Rhine, at Nanny Goat Hill gallery, 1901 Hyde St, SF. Reception 5-9pm, show runs thru 10/3. Gallery hours: Wed, Fri, Sat & Sun 12-6 & Thurs 3-9pm.

The San Francisco Opera opens its 60th annual fall season with a gala benefit featuring *Un Ballo in Maschera* by Verdi, in Italian. 7pm, War Memorial Opera House. All proceeds from the evening go to the San Francisco Opera Endowment Fund.

Cris Williamson in Concert! Celebrating the release of her sixth album, *Blue Rider*, along with Diane Lindsay, Vicki Randle, Tret Fure, Cam Davis, Shelby Fling and Novi. 8pm, Berkeley Community Theater, tickets: $10.50 at BASS and Olivia Records office. WA, CC, Sign by Lynette Taylor. Ticket discount for seniors, children and the disabled is available. Information: 420-9610 or 655-0364

***Permanent Wave*—**all-girl new wave at A Little More, 15th & Potrero, SF. 10pm, $2.50. Bring ID.

Paramahansa Satyanada, founder of Intern'l Yoga Fellowship returns to the US to show how traditional yogic wisdom can be understood in a modern scientific framework. 7:30pm, 1st Unitarian Church, Geary/Franklin & tmw, 11am, Yoga Society of SF, 2872 Folsom St, SF. Admission free.

Asian & Blue-Collar Women, a newly forming group is having a potluck for Asian tradeswomen. 7pm. For more info call Cho, 552-2996. A chance to meet each other, talk about our work (not just the trades), ourselves, and the struggles in our lives.

Celebrate Berkeley Women's Center 10th Anniversary with a dance at Ollie's, Oakland. Door prizes, surprise guests, taped music. $5 donation. 9pm on.... RCC w/48 hr notice: 548-4343.

11 Sat

First Annual Colored Women's Day in the Park for Women of Color—*join us* for a potluck picnic, celebration, sharing music & poetry, fun & games! 11am at Golden Gate Park, field at 25th Ave & South Drive. Bring food & beverages, utensils, sports equipment, musical instruments, prose, poetry. Come celebrate an affirmation of our identities as Women of Color/Third World Women. Information: Regina 641-7900 (days) SF, Eleanor (408) 559-0842 San Jose.

Assertiveness Training Workshop with John Beeman, M.A. 1-5pm 9/11, 18 & 25 at 18th Street Services, SF. Committment to all three sessions required. Fee: SL. To register call 863-8111.

Volunteer Orientation at the Women's Building. Join us and find out how you can keep the Women's Building alive and growing. Now is the time to get involved. 4-6pm. Info: Deena at 431-1180. "If we can all get together in one space, at one time, for one idea, we can work miracles."

The Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club Fifth Annual Awards Dinner at the Garden Court, The Sheraton Palace Hotel. Cocktails 6:30pm, dinner 7pm. Donation $35. Make your reservations now to attend.

David Reign in concert at The Boarding House, 901 Columbus Ave, SF. 7 & 10:30pm. A benefit for the Eureka Theatre. Info: 441-4333.

Lisa Koch brings her dynamic voice and guitar from Oregon to sing at the Artemis, SF. 9pm, $3.50. This is her 2nd SF appearance and the 1st was most memorable!

***Canta Tierra*, a duo consisting of** Francisca Wentworth and Denis Schmidt perform traditional and contemporary Latin American folk music, at The Meat Market Cafe, Castro & 24th, 8-11pm.

Sweet Honey in the Rock—tonight & tmw these five women make their incredible music to benefit the Women's Party for Survival & the First Unitarian Center. 8pm, $8/$6 srs. Sign, CC, WA, Info: 981-8909.

Women's Myth and Ritual, a group facilitated by Luisah Teish. Berkeley Women's Center, 2908 Ellsworth. $56 for the series. WA, advance registration by 9/8. 1-2:30pm. Info: 548-4343.

Drawings & Serigraphs by Jonni Marchant at The Woods Resort, Guerneville. Reception 5-8pm, show continues thru Sept at The Magic Theater Gallery in Monte Rio.

Gayle Marie, singer-songwriter w/ Jan Martinelli on bass at Gertie's, 250 Sebastopol Rd, Santa Rosa. 9pm, $4.

12 Sun

"Coming of Age," a multi-media art exhibit by and about women over 40. Vida Gallery, SF Women's Bldg. Exhibit runs 9/8-25, opening reception 4-6pm. Gallery hours: W-F 2-7pm, Sat 12-5pm. CC during reception. For details call 864-VIDA.

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club presents a Candidates Forum. Come see and hear the candidates for election in November speak on issues of importance to the lesbian and gay community. 7pm, the Fireside Room of the Trinity Methodist Church, 2320 Dana, Berkeley. WA, Call 849-3983 for further info.

Visions of Paradise—The Art of Tressa Prisbrey (assemblage folk artist): a film by Allie Light & Irving Saraf, shown in conjunction with exhibit and reception for "Coming of Age." CC. Call 864-VIDA for info. $1. SF Women's Bldg.

"Amelia, We Hope You're Laughing, Wherever You Are!" Foodsexual comic Carol Roberts will dish out comedy at Amelia's. Come and masticate upstairs in the mirrored room! No pets admitted. 9pm, 647 Valencia, SF.

Sons of Harvard: Gay Men from the Class of '67, recently published by Toby Marotta, discussed at the monthly Sunday Forum of the Gay Academic Union meeting hall, 1668 Bush, SF. 4pm, members free, guests $1 donation. Informal discussion and refreshments follow.

Sweet Honey in the Rock—See 9/11 for details.

A Group of Lesbians Considering Parenthood, facilitated by Cheri Pies. $45-$65 for series. Berkeley Women's Center, 2908 Ellsworth St. 7-9pm, WA, Advance registration by 9/8, 548-4343.

13 Mon

Studio W Women's Group art show at Garbo's, women's hair salon, 696 Valencia St at 18th, SF. Thru Oct 18, hours: Mon-Sat 9am-6pm.

Intuitive Energy Circle Training: Aligning our Energy with our Goals. A workshop led by Margo Adair. Learn to pool our energies to combat isolation, have better meetings, gain support, insight. Conducted with an awareness of political context. 7pm, 349 Church. Cost: SL. CC w/adv notice (861-6838).

Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club endorsement mtg, Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market, SF. 7:30pm.

Homo Movies at the Strand! *Making Love* & *Personal Best*. Showtimes: 552-5990.

"The Experience"—a guest event & potluck dinner, 7pm, 41 Mars St, SF. Info: 864-2146.

14 Tues

Be Your Own Psychic: a discussion and intro to techniques and exercises that develop your own intuitive gifts, with author Meroe Wimbs. 7pm, women only, $1, RCC by 9/12, ICI—A Woman's Place, Oakland.

Anti-Zionism and Jewish Liberation is the topic of the Radical Women Open Meeting. Meryl Sunshine and Roanne Hindin discuss anti-Semitism and its relationship to the crisis of capitalism, taking a close look at the role. Jewish women have played in radical politics. Dinner: 6:45pm, $3. Meeting: 7:30pm. 3016-16th St. Info: 681-2414.

***El Salvador, El Pueblo Vencera*—**This film outlines the history leading up to the current civil war in El Salvador. A benefit for Casa El Salvador at La Pena, Berkeley. 7:30pm, $3.

See Swingshift, all-women jazz quintet, with their recently added fifth, Frieda Feen at Amelia's, 647 Valencia, SF. 9pm, $2.

Support Group for Women & Alcohol Related Concerns, open to all women, 5-6:30pm in OPTIONS for Women Over Forth Ctr, SF Women's Bldg.

Applications are now being accepted for women police officers. Call for details: 552-SFPD.

Jessica Smith's cabaret vocals at Trinity Place in the Financial district, today thru Thurs. Details: 433-4922.

15 Wed

"Faces of Carnival," a photographic essay on "Carnival 82" by Renee Jones on display at Modern Times Bookstore, SF. All month thru Oct.

Do pornography and media violence promote real-life violence against women? Join WAVPM for a slideshow and discussion on "Abusive Images of Women in Mass Media and Pornography" and decide for yourself. 7:30pm, Women's Building, SF. WA, $1-$3. Info: 552-2709.

Whatever Happened to the Civil Rights Movement? Clayborne Carson, author of *In Struggle: SNCC and the Black Awakening of the 1960s* explores what happened to the energy and optimism of the 60s and discusses the chances for a revival of Black political militancy in the future. Modern Times Bookstore, SF. 7:30pm. $1

***We Were One Man*—**a stark, shattering look at the love between 2 men. Today & tmw at The Red Victorian Movie House, SF. Info: 863-3994.

The Right Questions to Ask Your Mechanic—a talk & discussion on proper auto maintenance & how to avoid unnecessary expense led by Randy Garner. 8pm, donation. The Network Coffeehouse, 1329-7th Ave, SF.

Bingo! to benefit Women's East Bay Bldg Fund. See weekly calendar for all the details.

The Second Annual Library Lecture Series to benefit the SF Public Library's free programs present John Irving, author of *The World According to Garp*. Davies Symphony Hall. Tickets for the series are $65 & $50. Single tickets, $10 & $8. Reservations: Box Office, 432-5400.

16 Thurs

Queens and street lingo, Dykes in tuxedos, Lesbian Separatism—it's all there to read in a special independent course, Gay and Lesbian Literature, offered by local writer Aaron Shurin at New College. $75 for the 12 week course. Info: 552-0991 or contact Mark Feldman at New College, 777 Valencia, 626-1694.

Educators for Rosselli cocktail party, 6:30-8pm, 44 Vicksburg. Special guest Assembly Ways and Means Chair John Vasconcellos. $10, $15, $20.

West of Twin Peaks get-together for Carole Migden for College Board Campaign. Wine and cheese. Admission: Free. At Margel and Stephen Kaufman's, 3036-20th Ave, (near Ocean), SF. 7-9pm.

Free Evening of Psychic Meditation, lecture and demonstration with Naomi Cooper. 7:30pm, Habitat Center, SF.

Tarot as Therapy, using the Waite deck. Lesbian feminist, Goddess, spirituality orientation. Led by Suzanne Judith. 7:30pm, $5. Berkeley Women's Center. RCC w/48 hr notice.

Psychic Development: Changing Ourselves. Changing the World. A lecture with Tasha Silver at the Habitat Center, SF. 7:30-9:30pm. Info 626-8039.

Book party to celebrate the publication of *Against Sadomasochism: A Radical Feminist Analysis*. 7:30-9:30pm, women only, free, refreshments. RCC by 9/14. ICI—A Woman's Place, Oakland.

Tour of China Slide Show. Trisha Case with her appropriate technology (solar, etc.) tour to China slide show; enabling us to see the Chinese use of solar greenhouses and bicycles, and some of the Chinese countryside, people and pandas! 7:30pm, Free, Old Wives Tales, SF. WA, RCC w/24 hr notice.

The Last Epidemic, a film showing the effect of a 20 megaton blast on San Francisco. Also the slide show "The History of WILPF." 7-9:30pm, $2. SF Women's Bldg.

"Moods of Mythology" see Tuesday, Sept 7

17 Fri

"101 Ways to be Middle Class: Ozzie & Harriet. Learn from the pros! 50s auto ads, campy ed films & much more. Habitat Center, SF, 8pm.

"Making Waves"—acclaimed Kronos Quartet opens its 82-83 concert season at 8pm in the Green Room of the SF Performing Arts Center, Van Ness and McAllister. For more info call 731-3533.

California N.O.W. presents

1st Annual Feminist Freedom Fair

Sunday, September 5
Provo Park
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Grove St., Berkeley

Games • Prizes • Booths • Crafts • Entertainment

Concert 2-5 p.m.
with
Woody Simmons & Band
Casselberry & Dupree
Silvia Kohan

featuring the
Walk for Women's Rights

KICK 'EM OUT! Rally 10:30a.m.
For info call 387-2720

w/a

Alternative A

The Gay Life with Randy Alfred
KSAN, 95 FM, Sundays, 6am
Sept 5: Armistead Maupin, author of the *Tales of the City* trilogy. Sept 12, 19 & 26, TBA

KGO Newstalk with David Lamble
KGO, 104FM, Sundays, 7:05-10pm
Gay-related topics for discussion with Fruit Punch Collective member David Lamble

Fruit Punch, Gay Men's Radio
KPFA 94FM, Wednesday, 10pm
Weekly programming by & about Gay Men

Love Styles, Cable Channel 6
Wednesdays 10:30pm, Fridays 11pm
Gay-oriented talk show with host Jud Kohl, for further information call 861-1073.

A World Wind
KPFA 94FM, Thursdays, 8pm
Sept 2: ***Sonido Afro-Latino,*** the powerful poetry & music of Avotcja, Mala Mana & Susan "Quasi" King.
Sept 9: **Women in Scots Music & Folk Culture.**
Sept 16: **Voices of Native American Women**—Discussion of the upcoming American Indian International Tribunal along with music, culture, & poetry.
Sept 23: **Music on the Eastern Front**—China, Japan & Siberia—a special blend of East Asian sounds.
Sept 30: **Music by Latina songwriters,** musicians & vocal artists from the Caribbean & Latin America.

Women's Magazine
KPFA, 94FM, Saturdays, noon
Sept 4: noon—**Alice Walker: *The Color Purple*** Walker expands upon many subjects treated in

EPTEMBER COMING UP!

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Lecture Series to
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Mythology"
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For more info call

A Special Evening of Latin American folk music presented by *Canta Tierra*, a duo performing traditional & contemporary folk music from countries such as Chile, Argentia, Bolivia, Peru, Mexico, the Caribbean and Spain. Joining them is *De Colores*, a folk group from Santa Rosa. 8:30pm, $4. La Pena, Berkeley.

De Colores & Canta Tierra play everything from corridos from northern Mexico to music from Peru & Bolivia at La Pena, Berkeley. 8:30pm, $4.

If you missed dancer Lambert Van Buren at Old Wives Tales, she's at the Artemis Cafe, SF with friends. 9pm, $4.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, a primarily lesbian/gay Jewish congregation, celebrates Rosh Ha Shanah, 7:30pm, Unitarian Conf. Ctr, Franklin & Geary, 7:30pm & tmw, 10am at SF Jewish Com. Ctr, 3200 California St. Sign, WA.

18 Sat

"End of Summer Dance," spons by the Gay & Lesbian Union at UC Berkeley. 8:30pm-12:30am Haas Clubhouse in the Strawberry Canyon Recreation area at UC. $3, info: 642-6942.

Overview of the Tarot, from an esoteric and a practical viewpoint—workshop focuses on how these universal images delineate the evolution of human consciousness & experience and how the Tarot can be used as a valuable tool in daily life. 1-6pm, $20. Xeroxed handouts and reading list provided. Info and registration: Anahid, 776-3151.

Sharon McNight is back! Tonight she signs at the Great American Music Hall in SF. Don't miss! Call 885-0750 for details.

Rosh Ha Shanah celebration & worship with Sha'ar Zahav. See 9/17 for details.

Belly Dancing Celebration—an evening of male & female belly dancing by "Odalisque." 8pm, $4. Habitat Ctr, SF.

Wake Robin Fiddlers—old time Irish & Appalachian Fiddlin' at Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm, $3.50.

19 Sun

Dan and Lou (Friends and Lovers), a film that documents the 11-year relationship of Lou Perica and Dan McFarland. Lou was married for 17 years and has four grown children. Dan is a recovering alcoholic who has survived a life-threatening heart attack. 9:30am, free, Unitarian Center, 1187 Franklin St, SF.

Applied Meditation/Intuitive Problem Solving with Margo Adair. Learn to reposses inner consciousness, empowering ourselves to make changes more easily. Includes stress reduction, visualization, refining intuition, integration of politics and spirituality. 10:30am-5:30pm, 349 Church. Cost: SL. CC w/adv notice: 861-6838.

"All Rabbit's Friends & Relations" Party. An ACLU (Northern CA Gay Rights Chapter) program focusing on getting legal status for the emotional "families" of lesbians and gay men. Part of the chapter's annual mtg. Party 2-5pm, business 3-3:10, program 3:10-3:45. 1615 Treat St, SF.

Basic Self Defense at the SF Woman's Dojo—introductory workshop today, clases run Mon-Fri 5:30-7pm. Complete info: 647-3549 or 540-8438.

Alive! plays some of the best jazz you'll ever hear at Erle's Solano Club, 1403 Solano Ave, Albany. Info: 524-9314.

20 Mon

Post-Modern Dance Technique classes with Keriac, Dancecentral Studio, 24th & Mission. 6pm. FREE class 9/20, six week session begins 9/27. More info: 626-0756.

Contact Improvisation dance classes taught by Keriac at Dancentral Studio 24th & Mission, 7:30pm. Six week session starts 9/27, FREE class tonite. For more info call 626-0756.

21 Tues

Lynda Bergren entertains us at Trinity Place Cabaret, SF. Today & next Monday, complete info: 433-4922.

The Closing Circle: National Legislative Threats to the Freedom of Information—a panel discussion on Reagan's recent efforts to weaken the power of the Freedom of Information Act & his support of the controversial Intelligence Identities Protection Act. 7:30pm, Ft Mason, Bldg C, SF. Spons by Media Alliance and No Cal ACLU.

"Crystal Meditations" improve the quality, clarity and power of your meditations. A workshop with Johnathan Davidson. Habitat Center, SF. Info: 864-1366.

The Printing Trade: Basic Tools and Their Uses. One evening workshop for women with the Women's Press Project. 7-9:30pm, $5-$10SL. 532 VAlencia, SF. Info: 431-6210.

Postal Politics: Send those letters of praise and protest you always meant to write. Easy Bay N.O.W. sponsors an evening of letter writing. Refreshments too! 7pm, free, women only, RCC by 9/19. ICI—A Woman's Place, Oakland.

Gail Wilson brings her cabaret vocals to the Financial District at Trinity Place Cabaret. Details: 433-4922.

Join the Harvey Milk Club for cocktails and meet Community College Board candidate Carole Migden. At Bob Dockendorf's, 260 Amber St, SF. $10, $15, or $25; 7-9pm.

22 Wed

Pablo Neruda: Poet (1972) and *Chile in the Heart* (1979)—2 films dealing with the life of Nobel prize winning poet Pablo Neruda. La Pena, Berkeley, 8pm, $2.50.

Open Mike for Women Poets. Bring your works and share in a comfortable atmosphere. 8pm, $2. Studio W, SF.

Katherine and Don Johnson together in concert at the Roxy Roadhouse along with Bob Bendorff. Dinner from 6pm, show at 9pm, $3 cover (free w/dinner). Res: 474-7699. Eddy/Larkin, SF.

Lesbians & The Church—discussion of issues relating to lesbians & the church led by a lesbian Christian minister who is currently a graduate theological student. 8pm, The Network Coffeehouse, 1329-7th Ave, SF.

23 Thurs

The Puerto Rican Socialist Party present a forum discussing Reagan's plan for the Caribbean Basin & Puerto Rican issues. La Pena, Berkeley, 8pm, $3.

Countervision: A Photojournal of Cultural Diversity in the Community of Women. The Women's Photography Workshop sponsors a slide show of their work for the benefit of a new women's photography journal. All other women photographers interested in showing their work should arrive 30 minutes early and bring up to 5 slides to share. 7:30pm, $2-$4SL, WA. La Pena, Berkeley.

"Finding What You Need: Tips For Survival and Inexpensive Fun in San Francisco." A talk by Jan Zobel, editor of the *People's Yellow Pages*. 7pm, free. Mission Branch, SF Public Library, 3529-24th St.

Dodici Azpadu and Barbara Noda read Old Gay/New Gay prose and poetry. 7:30pm, free, Old Wives Tales, SF. RCC w/24 hr notice.

Assemblyman Art Torres' reception for Sal Rosselli, 5:30-7:30p.m, New College, 777 Valencia. $10, $15, $25.

Women in El Salvador: a slide show and discussion presented by the Women's Com. on Central America. 7:30pm, $5, Berkeley Women's Center. CC w/48 hr notice.

"Quest of the Seven" Shamatic Journey—a silde show & talk with Patricia Judge at Habitat Ctr, SF. 7:30pm, $3.

Not A Love Story—a motion picture about pornography plays at the Surf Theatre, SF at 8pm to benefit Women Against Violence in Pornography and Media. Champagne reception 7:30pm, after the film a discussion led by Susan Griffin, author of *Pornography & Silence*. Call 522-2709 for details.

30th Anniversary of Nixon's Checkers Speech On Sept 23, 1982, Nixon went on national TV & radio to tell us he wasn't guilty of mis-using public funds. Learn how poor and honest he was in *Republican Cloth Coats*, the gift he won't give back even if it is illegal, plus *Nixon on Laugh-In*, Nixon/Reagan Bloopers, Reagan's *Bedtime for Bonzo* and an animated Jimmy Carter sings "Georgia on my mind." An evening of political film funnies at Habitat Center, SF. 8pm, $2.50.

24 Fri

Top 25's Redd Hott with Sharon Redd! Guest DJ Tim Rivers, Lights by Jim Feldman. $5 members, $10 gen. Trocadero Transfer, 520 4th St, SF.

Educators for Carole Migden for College Board. Dinner at the home of Steve Herman, 415 Belvedere, SF, $25; 7-9 pm.

Jacqueline Elizabeth, Lesbian Poet, reads *Babeloques*. 7:30pm, $5, Berkeley Women's Center. RCC w/48 hr notice.

Improvisational Dance Performance with Keriac, Alan Ptashek and Atit Ricardo in collaboration with musician Larry Kassin and videoartist, Eric Siebert. Tonite & tmw, 8:30pm, Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez, SF. Benefit for City Celebration.

Not a Love Story—a motion picture about pornography "faithfully records the odyssey of 2 women through the world of porn & deeply felt reactions to it." Opens today at the Lumiere Theatre, SF. Info: 855-3200.

Massage Workshop Weekend with Great Outdoor Adventures at rustic Orr Hot Springs, led by Ken Jones. Complete info: 621-2400.

25 Sat

Orquesta Sin Igual, the orchestra without equal plays salsa to benefit the people of El Salvador. La Pena, Berkeley. 9:30pm, $4.

"End of the World's Fair," a disarmament parade and carnival. Sponsored by the War Resisters League/West. Golden Gate Park, SF. For more info write 2000 Center ST., #1200 Berkeley, CA 94704.

Mimi Fox & Biaja Teac, guitar & vocals at Artemis Cafe, SF. 9pm, $4.50.

Overview of the Tarot—see 9/18 for details.

Dance to benefit *Gay Community News,* 1st Unitarian Church, 1128-Franklin, SF. DJ Gayle Rubin spins old & new rock & soul. $5, 9pm-1am.

"Twenty-two on the Red," a gala evening o dancing, gaming, entertainment to help fund the GGBA Foundation's grants to Bay Area Community groups which serve gay men and lesbians. Big band dancing and entertainment by David Kelsey and Pure Trash. Formal or period dress (40s era encouraged, informal welcome. 8pm, Galleria Design Center, 101 Henry Adams St. Tickets at Gramaphone, Headlines, or call GGBA (956-8660) to charge by phone. $15 ($20 at door) includes $5 in chips to game for an exciting assortment of donated prizes.

"Why I am a Socialist Feminist," a forum featuring Stephen Durham, L.A. organizer of the Freedom Socialist Party, and longtime activist in the gay and labor movements. Dinner 6:30pm (Donation $4.50), forum 8pm (donation $2). 3016 16th St (at Mission), Rm. 205. RCC & Info: 824-1497. Spons by Radical Women and the Freedom Socialist Party.

Garden Party for Sal Rosselli for College Board, sponsored by Jerry Garchik, Bernice Wong and Eulalio Frausto. 156 Baker, SF. 1-4pm. $5-$10.

26 Sun

Come See *Permanent Wave,* an all-girl new wave band at Amelia's, 647 Valencia, SF. $2.50.

The New Movement in Solidarity with Puerto Rican and Mexican Revolutions sponsors a book party and poetry reading from the new book, *Have You Seen La Nueva Mujer Revolucionaria Puertorriquena?: the poetry and lives of revolutionary Puerto Rican Women.* Upstairs, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia. 2-5pm, $1-$3SL, CC. Refreshments provided. Info: 561-9055.

Yom Kippur Celebration & worship with Sha'ar Zahav, the gay/lesbian Jewish Congregation. 7:30pm—Kol Nidre Services; tmw 10am—morning service, 5:45pm—Yiskor & Ne'ilah Services. All services held at Unitarian Conference Ctr, Franklin & Geary, SF. Sign, WA.

Jack And Jim/A Personal Journal—Jim Brogran discusses his new book detailing the evolution of a Gay relationship in the 70s. Unitarian Universality Gay & Lesbian Caucus, SF. 9:30am.

27 Mon

Yom Kippur services with Congregation Sha'ar Zahav—see 9/26 for details.

Gay Theater Collective seeks new members & volunteers for upcoming multi-media production. Need performers M&F, singers, dancers, choreographers, techies & video artists, musicians, fundraisers, artists & anyone wanting to help. Contact Michael at 824-3446 10am-10pm.

28 Tues

History and politics of the Irish Republican Socialist Party and the present situation in Ireland discussed by Brigid Makowski, vice-chairperson of the IRSP. 7:30pm, $2-$4SL, La Pena, Berkeley.

Breaking Into Freelance Writing, a panel discussing ways to make money freelancing and to help beginners focus their ideas, find an area of interest and sell themselves and their ideas. 7:30pm, $5, Ft Mason Ctr, Bldg C, SF. Spons by Media Alliance.

Free Speech on Trial is the topic of the Radical Women open mtg, presenting 2 historic fights for freedom of speech on the job: the Merle Woo case against UC Berkeley and the Clara Fraser case against Seattle City Light. Dinner 6:45pm, $3, mtg. 7:30pm. At Radical Women office, 3016 16th St. Info: 681-2414.

"Women in South Africa"—info on living conditions and the feminist & Black liberation struggles from Pearl Marsh, recently returned from 6 mos. work on community self-help projects with women in a So. African township. 7pm, women only, free. RCC by 9/26. ICI—A Woman's Place, Oakland.

Pam Brooks superb vocal stylings at Trinity Place Cabaret, 25 Trinity Lane, SF. Today thru Thurs. Details: 433-4922.

Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club gen'l membership mtg. 7:30pm, SF Women's Bldg.

29 Wed

Ntozake Shange will be here, reading from her new novel, *Sassafrass, Cypress and Indigo*, the story of three sisters from Charleston, S.C. 8pm, cost: donation. Old Wives Tales, SF. RCC w/24 hr notice.

The Bay Area Women's Philharmonic announces openings for all strings, trumpet, trombone, bassoon and percussion. Auditions tonite & tmw, 6-10pm. For further info contact Randy Israel, 584-2567 or Janis Lieberman, 530-4383.

A Trio of Gay Films—*Salome, Lot in Sodom* and *Sebastiane* at the Strand, SF. Info: 552-5990.

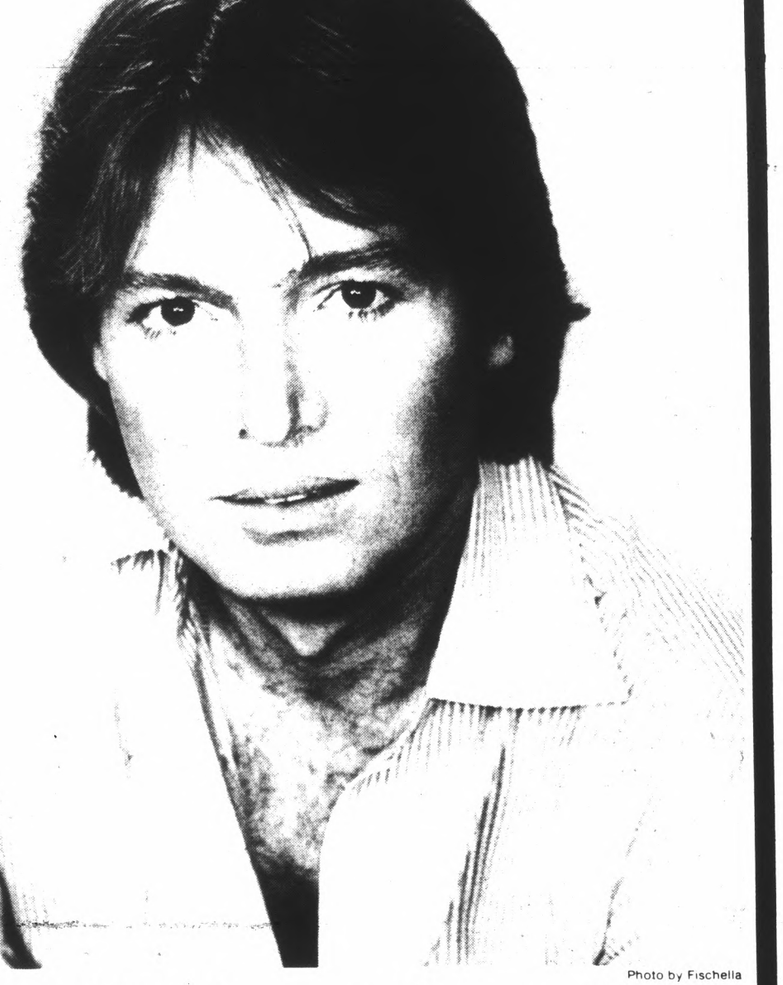

Photo by Fischella

David Reign • Sept 11

30 Thurs

"An Evening of Consciousness Lowering with Ladies Against Women." 8:30pm, Open Theater Cafe, 441 Clement St. Opening night special: Men-$1, Ladies-59¢. Continuing Thursday nights in October at inflated prices. Info: 386-3086. Wear uncomfortable clothing, polyester required.

Bookparty for *Dollars and Cents,* a fundraising grassroots manual with discussion by Pam Miller. 7:30pm, free. Old Wives Tales, SF. RCC w/24 hr notice.

A Pastafest! Sponsored by the People for Sal Rosselli for College Board. $100 per person. Call 641-8866 for details.

"Prophesy & Me;" a short intro to the wonders of the Tarot with Z Budapest. Bring your questions to the Habitat Center, SF. 7:30pm, $3. 626-8039.

Suppressed Histories: North Asia—1st in a 7-part series of slideshows on women in history & culture. Why don't you know a thing about Siberia & its peoples? Women's history from the largest & most ignored region of the earth. Presented by Max Dashu, 8pm, $3-$5SL. La Pena, Berkeley. Details: 654-9298. Benefits Suppressed Histories Archives.

Calendar Key

WA: wheelchair access
CC: childcare available at event
RCC: call to reserve childcare for event
Sign: sign language interpreted
Res: reservations
SL: sliding scale

Address Directory

Artemis Cafe, 23rd & Valencia, San Francisco, 821-0232. WA.

Berkeley Women's Center, 2908 Ellsworth, Berkeley. 548-4343.

Eighteenth Street Services, 4130—18th St, San Francisco. 863-8111.

Habitat Center, 3895-18th Street, San Francisco. 621-2400.

I.C.I. Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway, Oakland. 547-9920. WA.

La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck, Berkeley. 849-2568. WA.

Laughing Goddess Grotto (Susan B. Anthony Coven #1), 4118 Telegraph, Oakland. 653-4169, 444-7724.

Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka Street, San Francisco. 863-4434.

Metropolitan Community Church—East Bay, 4986 Fairfax Ave, Oakland. 533-4848. WA.

Old Wives's Tales, 1909 Valencia Street, San Francisco. 821-4675. WA.

Ollie's, 4120 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. 654-6017. WA.

Operation Concern, 2485 Clay Street, San Francisco. 563-0202.

Pacific Center for Human Growth, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. 548-8283. WA.

Unitarian Universalists Gay & Lesbian Caucus, First Unitarian Church, Franklin/-Geary, San Francisco. 776-4580.

Women's Building of the Bay Area, 3543—18th Street. San Francisco. 431-1180. WA.

native Airwaves

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the book & reads passages from her latest novel. 1pm—**When We Make it Through:** The Oddessey of a Women Singer Who Believes in a Future Beyond Exploitation—Barbara Dance sings & talks about her life. 1:30pm—**Vigdis Finnbogadottir, President of Iceland,** talks about her life, her career & her view of her role as the first woman to represent her country.

Sept 11. **Women & Resistance in Chile**—today marks the 9th Anniversary of the overthrow of the Allende government by the U.S.-backed military junta. Thru poetry, song, drama & discussion, women from Chile celebrate their continuing resistance. 1pm—**Machismo & Feminism in Chicano Families: Separating Myth From Reality:** Chicano men are pre-occupied with sex & are cruel & insensitive to women. Is this reality or a myth created by White sociologists & Media. What does the perpetuation of this stereotype do to Chicana women? What is the Chicana's Image of herself? What are the issues that unite, and divide, Chicana feminists & white feminists? A talk by Lee Ybarra, coordinator of La Raza Studies at Fresno State.

Sept 18. noon—**Where I've Been:** writers Valerie Miner & Sandy Boucher read from new works on treks through time & cross-country. 1pm—**Rosh Hashonnah:** What does it Mean to Jewish Feminists: a talk with Jewish Feminists, including Rabbinical students, about the meaning of this holiday for women & the joys and difficulties of being a Jew and a feminist.

Sept 25. noon—***This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color:*** politics & heart, in women's words. 1pm—**From A Different Perspective**—what happens to immigrant women when they look for jobs? 1:30pm—***En Inglis & en Espanol:*** Women in Bi-Lingual Radio: women are in the forefront of the bilingual movement, as station managers, program directors, reporters & programmers.

The GOLDEN GATE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION presents
a benefit for **THE GGBA FOUNDATION**

TWENTY-TWO ON THE RED

Saturday, SEPTEMBER 25, 1982 · 8pm
$15 in advance · $20 at the door
at the Galleria · 101 Henry Adams St
DAVID KELSEY and PURE TRASH
Gaming for Prizes
Formal/Period Dress Encouraged
Informal Attire Welcome
Charge by phone: VISA/MC: 956-8660
Tickets Available Gramophone, Headlines

CLOGGING CLASSES

Beginning
September 13, 1982
Monday Nights 7-8:30 p.m.
10 weeks—$55
At Old Notre Dame High School
16th & Dolores Streets
San Francisco

PHONE—JANICE HANZEL
829-0846 (Dublin, Ca)

"Come Out Of Your Refrigerator"
with
FOODSEXUAL COMEDIAN
CAROL ROBERTS!

Fanny's, Thursdays
9:30 & 11:00
w/ special guests
Amelia's
Sun. Sept. 12, 9pm
Valencia Rose
Wed. Sept. 8
Mondays 8:30pm
co-emcee Gay Open Mike
Comedy Nite

FOR YOU!
Stand-Up Comedy Workshop
Taught by Carol Roberts
Valencia Rose, Tuesday 8-10

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Greg Day for Supervisor Committee
287 Downey St. S.F. 94117 664 7458 ID #822338

"'NOT A LOVE STORY'
has the good fortune to have as its principal witness Linda Lee Tracey, a former stripper, who is intelligent and articulate and could become to the 80's what Gypsy Rose Lee was to the 40's.
—VINCENT CANBY, N.Y. TIMES

In **'NOT A LOVE STORY'** Canadian women filmmakers have created a personal film...it makes clear the profound difference between erotica's mutually chosen pleasure and the violence and domination that define pornography. MS. MAGAZINE

'NOT A LOVE STORY' The movie faithfully records the odyssey of two women through the twisted world of porn and their deeply felt reactions to it. TORONTO STAR

NOT A LOVE STORY
a motion picture about
PORNOGRAPHY
Produced by the National Film Board of Canada
Directed by Bonnie Sherr Klein and Starring Linda Lee Tracey
Warning: If you are offended by graphic subject matter, we urge you not to see this film.
EXCLUSIVE SF ENGAGEMENT!
STARTS FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 24!
LUMIERE California at Polk 885-3200
Discount Parking Holiday Inn Van Ness at Calif.

COMING UP! Weekly

SEPTEMBER

sunday

Raps & Support

Gay Men's Open Rap at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley, 7:30pm.

Bay Area Gay Fathers—support groupfor gay men in the community who share the rich blessing of also being parents. New members welcome. Call 821-7101.

Lesbians Considering Parenthood group at Berkeley Women's Center, led by Cheri Pies. 7-9pm. Call to register: 548-4343.

San Francisco Women's Business Bowling League bowls at Park Bowl, Haight/Stanyan, 7pm. (Except 7/4)

Social • Political

Run with the FrontRunners—non-competitive running for lesbians, gay men & others who enjoy the exhilaration of the sport. 10am. Call 431-5534 for details on runs.

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club meets the 2nd Sun. every month at 2230 Derby, Berkeley. Concerned with issues & candidates of Alameda & Contra Costa Counties from a progressive perspective. Call 849-3983 for further info.

Circle of Concern—a silent vigil protesting nuclear weapons research spons by Berkeley Area Interfaith Council. 1:30pm Sundays & noon Thursdays. University Ave entrance to UC campus. More info: 841-0881.

Spiritual

Worship with Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka, SF. 10:30am (CC) and 7pm.

Marantha Metropolitan Community Church—after much struggle, a new MCC in Hayward! Rev. Jodi Safier, Pastor. Join for Sunday services, 6pm at 22577 Bayview, Hayward. Info: 278-0962.

Congregation of St. John is forming a sacramentally oriented gay Christian group. Join in a home Liturgy at 809 Masonic Street at 11am. Social hour after services. Further info: 921-6217.

Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church worships 10:30am, Room 404, California Hall, 625 Polk, SF.

Affirmation: Gay & Lesbian Mormons—a support/social group for current or ex-Mormons & friends. 8pm. Info: 641-0791.

Dignity—Catholic Gay men, lesbians & friends meet at 6pm for positive worship in the Liturgy of the Eucharist at St. John of God, Fifth Ave & Irving St, SF.

Metropolitan Community Church of the East Bay worships Sundays, 6pm, Oakland.

Integrity: Gay & Lesbian Episcopalians, 555A Castro, SF. 7pm, Trinity Church, Gough/Bush, SF. 7pm, 2nd & 4th Sundays. Info: Rick Kerr, 861-8457.

Body • Dance • Health

VD Testing, treatment, counseling & referral by & for gay men, 7-9pm, drop-in. Gay Men's Health Collective, Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave. Free & confidential. Complete Info: 548-2570.

Entertainment

Substance Women's Art Show, featuring hand-colored mono silver prints by Eileen P. Goldenberg. Noon-5pm, Studio W, SF. Saturdays & Sundays.

Shit-kickin' Country Western Live-Band Boogie at Rainbow Cattle Company, 199 Valencia, SF. The fine music & dance start at 6pm. This month: 9/5: *John Gallagher Band;* 9/12: *Billy Band;* 9/19: *Cookie Baker & the Stetsons;* 9/26: *Kathi McDonald, Will Porter & Band.*

monday

Raps & Support

Rap Group for Gay Men at Pacific Center, Berkeley. 7:45pm.

Lesbians drop-in Rap Group—discuss loneliness, sexuality, friendship, 7:30-9:30pm, SF Women's Bldg. Facilitated by Midgett.

Lesbian Rap Group at Center of Light—Psychological, metaphysical, spiritual, counseling—a New Age Concept of Living. 7pm. Complete info: 238-6790.

Women's Rap Group—first & third Mondays each month. 7:30pm, $3 don. The Bisexual Center. Info: 929-9299.

Social • Political

Job Listings for Women Over Forty updated regularly, available at the OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg, 10am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

Senior Lunch Program at The Pride Center, 708 Fillmore, SF. 11:30am-1pm, Mon-Fri. Senior Center open 10am-2pm Mon-Fri. Complete info: 558-8127.

Body • Dance • Health

Clogging Classes for beginners with Janice Hanzel of the Barbary Coast Cloggers. 10wk class starts 9/13, 7-8:30pm, $4. at Old Notre Dame HS, 16th & Dolores, SF. Details: 829-0846.

Beginning Level Modern Jazz Dance Class. Come join me in building strength, stretch, stamina and coordination through dancing! Basic principles of technique will be used towards mastering full performance potential in choreographic combinations of movements. Spons by Anita Lusebrink, $4 per class. For more info: 474-7736. SF Women's Bldg.

Deep Stretch & Relax taught by Keriac at Dancentral Studio, 24th & Mission, SF. Free class 9/20 & 22, 6wk session starts 9/27 & 29. Every Mon & Wed 9:30am. Info: 626-0756.

Post-Modern Dance Technique taught by Keriac at Dancentral Studio, 24th & Mission, SF. Free class 9/20, 6wk session starts 9/27. 6pm, more info: 626-0756.

Contact Improvisation taught by Keriac at Dancentral Studio, 24th & Mission, SF. Free class 9/20, 6wk session starts 9/27. Info: 626-0756. 7:30pm.

Men's Contact Improvisation Group. Join us in this athletic/meditative movement form. Sept. instructor: Byron Brown. Mariposa Studio, Project Artaud. 7:30-10:30pm. Info: 929-1506.

Rhythm & Motion/Aerobic Dance Exercise— SF's best workout—have a great time while you get in shape! Classes Mon-Sat 9:15 & 10:30am, and Tues-Thurs 6pm. CC available Mon, Wed & Fri for $1.25/child. $3/class, $2.50/series card. SF Women's Bldg.

STD screening, nurse consultation & referral, plus health information. Men's Clinic, 3850-17th St, SF. Mon-Thurs 1-7pm, Fri 8-11am.

VD Checks at the City Clinic on a drop-in basis. 250 Fourth St (between Howard & Folsom). Mon-Fri, $3/visit. Hours: 9:30am-6pm Mon & Thurs, 8am-4pm Wed & Fri.

Entertainment

New Wave at The Stud, 1535 Folsom, SF. Info: 863-6623.

Movies at the Revol! Comedy, Camp & Great Variety. 7:30pm. 3924 Telegraph, Oakland.

Laughter Echoes in Former Funeral Parlor! Carol Roberts and Tom Amminao co-host "Gay Open Mike Comedy Night" at the Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia, 8pm. Amateurs and professionals welcome! $2.

tuesday

Raps & Support

Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Group beginners meeting 7:15-7:45pm, regular meeting 8-9:15pm. All Saints Church, 1350 Waller, SF. WA. Info: 982-4473.

Gay Men's Rap at Center of Light, a psychological metaphysical, spiritual counseling center with a new age concept of living. Info: 238-6790.

Openings for Lesbians over 30 in on-going Lesbian-Feminist Therapy Group. Process-oriented. 7-9pm, East Bay. Led by Meryl Lieberman-McNew. $35-$55/mo. Info: 834-5871.

Stress Management Program, District Health Ctr #1, 3850-17th St. 6-wk classes start 9/21. 7-8:30pm, Registration & info: 558-3905.

Second Start Program's Career/Life Planning with Caroline Voorsanger at OPTIONS for Women over Forty Center, SF Women's Bldg. 6-8pm. Low SL fee. Starts 9/7.

Lesbian Drop-in Rap, 7:30pm at Pacific Center, Berkeley.

Women's Drug & Alcohol Group—advance notice required: 841-6224. Pacific Center, Berkeley.

Rap Group for Women and Men. 7:30pm, $3 donation. The Bisexual Center, call 929-9299.

Social • Political

Brother to Brother—an informal evening of questions, answers, discussion & sharing of experiences for Black gay men of all ages who are concerned about the quality of their lives within SF-Bay Area gay community, 8pm. Complete info: 621-5379 (between 6-9pm Tues-Fri).

Come Play With Us: open rehearsal of the SF Gay Freedom Day Marching Band & Twirling Corps, 7pm, Eureka Valley Rec Ctr, 18th & Collingwood St, SF.

Spiritual

Dialogue on God/Bible Study/Holy Communion at the new MCC in Hayward. Tues-Thurs, & Sat 4-6pm. 22577 Bayview, Hayward, 278-0962.

Maitri—Buddhist gay men, lesbians & friends meet 7:30pm, 47 Hartford, SF.

Body • Dance • Health

Beginning Couple-Dance Classes for gay people Tuesday eves starting 8/3. Held in the Castro area. Music ranging from Big Band to Doo Wop to Disco. Cost is 420 for six wks. Call Gary 433-0862

Lesbian Clinic—gynecological & general medical clinic run by & for lesbians at Berkeley Women's Health Collective. Call 843-6194 for appt.

Tuesday Evening Runs with FrontRunners—a running club for gay men & lesbians. Meet 7pm at McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park. More info: 665-3924.

Esalen massage class for women and men. 4 sessions start 9/14. Details: 863-2842 (Milo Jarvis).

Entertainment

The John Trowbridge Showcase at Roxy Roadhouse in the Caravan Lodge, corner of Larkin & Eddy. 9pm, $3.

***Where's Factwino?**—last chance to find out is Labor Day weekend—On Stage column, page 10, has all the details.*

Salsa Music for Dancing at Different Strokes, 1550 California St, SF. 9pm-2am, $1. An Eve & Lynn Presentation.

wednesday

Raps & Support

Intuitive Problem Solving Support Group/Energy Circle led by Margo Adair. Pool our psychic resources to combat isolation, energize realities, and gain insights that help us attain our goals. Wednesdays 7-9:30pm, and Thursdays 5-7:30pm, SL. Further info & special needs: 861-6838.

Slightly Older Lesbians (SOL) rap groups & social events for women 30 & over. 7:30-9:30pm, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, SF. CC w/24-hr notice, 285-1590.

Transsexual/Transvestite, MTF/FTM meetings at SF MCC, 8pm. Additional info: (408) 734-3773. 2nd Wed each month.

Bisexual Women's Open Rap, 7:30pm, Pacific Center, Berkeley.

Social • Political

The Gay and Lesbian Union of UC Berkeley Business mtg: 6:30, social/education mtg: 7:45. WA, students & non-students welcome. Call 642-6942 for more info.

Women Over Forty Experimental Theater, open to all women over 40, 7pm in the OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg.

Spiritual

Prayer & Communion Service with MCC, SF 7:30pm.

Oakland Midweek Worship Service, 7pm, MCC Church of the East Bay. Info: 533-4848.

Hayward Midweek Worship Service, 7pm, 27621 East 12th St. Spons by Metropolitan Community Church of the East Bay. Info: 533-4848.

Body • Dance • Health

Movement Ritual with Madalyn Suozzo at SF's Habitat, 6:30-7:30pm. Info: 863-5802.

Tai Chi with Nam Singh at the Habitat Ctr, SF. Info:863-1980.

Entertainment

Tavern Guild Wednesday Night Bowling—join in the fun at Park Bowl on Haight at Stanyan, SF. 8:30pm.

Eve & Lynn Presents Ladies Nite—dancing/disco, jazz social club for women, Wed 9pm-2am, Fri 10pm-4am. 2267 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. $2 members/$3 gen. Info: 848-0242.

Bingo! Benefit for Women's East Bay Bldg Fund. Your chance to win gift tickets to entertainment & cash prizes. Have fun & win while helping build a women's space in the East Bay. Light dinner 7pm, games 7:30-10pm. At Ollie's Oakland. More info: 451-2505 or 261-0385. Starts 9/15.

thursday

Raps & Support

Coming Out—a re-entry program offering transitional services for gay or lesbian ex-offenders—sponsors a rap group to talk about the problems of re-entering the free world from prison life. 2nd & 4th Thurs, 7:30-9:30pm. Location: 586-4718.

Lesbians over 40 discussion group—topics: aging, loneliness, sexuality, communication skills & coming out. 7-9pm. Info: Midgett (864-0876).

Second Start Program's Building Self-Confidence with Marjorie Miller, 6-8pm, OPTIONS for Women Over Forty, SF Women's Bldg. Low SL fee, starts 9/9.

Fair-fight Training for Lesbian Couples, led by Meryl Lieberman-McNew. $15-$25/couple per session. E. Bay. 7:30-9:30pm. Info: 834-5871.

Drop-in Gay Support Group for women & men, 7:30pm at Glide Memorial, 330 Ellis at Taylor (2nd floor, Room 209), SF. Free.

Slightly Older Lesbians (SOL) group for women over 30. 7:30pm, Pacific Center, Berkeley.

Black & White Men Together Rap—7:30-10pm, free. All Saints Episcopal Church, 1350 Waller, SF. WA.

Gay and Bi-Sexual young men under 21 drop-in rap spons. by Hospitality House & the Ctr for Special Problems, 5:30pm, 146 Leavenworth St, SF.

Spiritual

Choir practice at SF's Metropolitan Community Church, 7pm. Details: 863-4434.

MCC has a new church in Hayward!—services 7:30-9:30pm (see Sundays & Tues for more info).

Body • Dance • Health

Yogaerobics w/ Emily & Natisa, Habitat, SF. 6-7:30pm.

Yoga for Gay Men with Sequoia at Habitat, SF. 5:30-9:30pm. Reg, info: 841-6511.

Esalen massage class for gay men. 4 sessions start 9/16, details: 863-2842 (Milo Jarvis).

Classes

Self-Defense Against Rape—Judith Fein teaches karate & street-fighting techniques plus the psychology of rape prevention & street survival. 5:30-7pm & 7:30-9pm at City College, 50 Phelan Ave. Info: 285-3869. Free.

Oral Interpretation of Black Literature: a course with Opal Palmer examines some of the great black orators, including Zora Neale Hurston & Sojourner Truth. 7-10pm, City College, SF. Info: 239-3581.

Entertainment

"The Ladies of Jazz" at Roxy Roadhouse, corner of Larkin & Eddy, SF. 9pm, $3. 9/2: Joan Schaff; 9/9: Dianne Saal; 9/16: Cathy Silverstein; 9/23: Stephanie Douglas; 9/30: Madeline Eastman.

"Laugh Your Fanny's Off!" Foodsexual comedian Carol Roberts continues to dish out comedy at Fanny's Cabaret, 4230-18th St, SF. 9:30 & 11pm. Special guests each week! Foodsexual kitchen aides and paraphenalia available at shows. Foodsexuals admitted on a sliding scale.

friday

Raps & Support

Support Group for Women Over Forty with Carol Painter, in the OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg. Initial mtg 9/10 to discuss possibility of 6-wk commitment. 7:30-9:30pm. Low SL fee, work exchange.

New Coming Out Group for Lesbians—share the sorrows and joys we encounter as new lesbians; facilitated by Laurie Audette, MA. More info: 431-8620.

Women's Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 7-8pm. SF Women's Bldg.

Under 21 Lesbian Rap, 4-6pm, Pacific Center, Berkeley.

Social • Political

Midgett's Place (for lesbians only)—entertainment, dancing, poetry, group discussion, free, no smoking or drinking. Call 864-0876 for info.

Girth & Mirth Club of SF meets at Roxie Road House, Larkin at Eddy, 1st & 3rd Fri, 7:30pm. Reasonable dinners. More info: 680-7612. Where chubbies meet chasers meet chubbies.

C&C Men's Club—a social club for chubbies & chasers meets 1st & 3rd Fri each month at First Congregational Church, Post & Mason, SF. 8pm.

Spiritual

Shabbat Services with Sha'ar Zahav, Jewish lesbian/gay congregation, Jewish Community Center, 3200 California, SF. 8:15pm.

Entertainment

Paul Anttinello & Mary Jo McConnell with Sean Martinfield—superb cabaret entertainment at Tom Vetrano's Roxy Roadhouse, Larkin & Eddy, SF. 9:30pm, $4. Fridays except 9/3.

saturday

Raps & Support

Men's Coming Out Group—talk about the process if you're going through it or thinking about it. Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. 841-6224.

Under 21 Gay Men's Open Rap, 1-4pm at Pacific Ctr, Berkeley.

GayCon rap group for gay/lesbian ex-cons who want to learn how to survive in SF & talk with other ex-cons, 2-3pm, United States Mission, 1769 Oak St, SF. Info: 431-2676.

Spiritual

Psychic Fair—A Metaphysical Day—readers of the tarot, psychic & palmistry at a new, exciting fair in the Castro. $1 door, 11am-6pm at Habitat Ctr, SF.

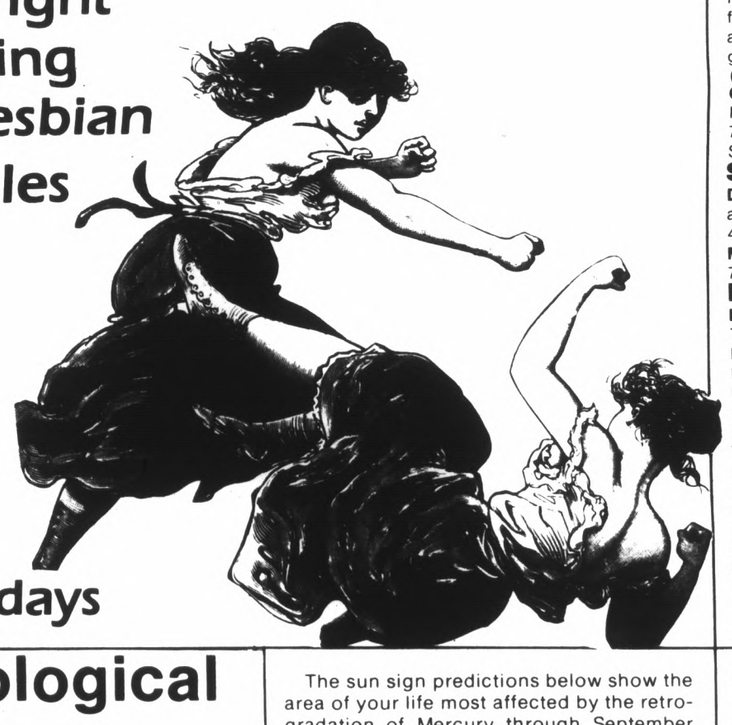
Body • Dance • Health

Transpersonal Healing Skills—learn to do deep breath work, visualization, reframing & focusing skills so as to meditate ones own healing/expansion. $7/wk, 11am, SF Women's Bldg. With Mary Maher, for more info call 751-5273.

Run with the FrontRunners—gay & lesbian non-competitive running group. Meet 10am at Stow Lake Boathouse, Golden Gate Park.

Classes

Wookworking Workshops for Women—a beginning furnituremaking class using hand tools & morites & tenon joinery. Space for 6 women. 8 wk class starts 9/18. $80-$120 SL. Info: Debey Zito, 648-6861.



Astrological Forecast

by Jack Fertig

My sure-fire, foolproof prediction for the end of this month is that you will hear a number of people moaning and groaning that Mercury is retrograde. According to some of these folk, whenever Mercury goes retrograde life turns into the Mr. Bill Show. My simple, calm response is, "Oh, no." Like any other astrological transit, a retrograde Mercury can be put to favorable use. Admittedly some transits are harder to deal with than others, but a retrograde Mercury is no big deal. (If you really want to play Mr. Bill, Saturn will conjunct Pluto in November. Tune in then.)

So by now many of you are wondering what the hell is a retrograde? Very simply, from Earth, the planets sometimes appear stop and reverse direction. When a planet appears to be going backwards it is retrograde. Too many people believe that when a planet goes backwrds so do the matters ruled by that planet. More accurately when a planet retrogrades there may be a recurrence of the stiuation indicated by the transit. One may bemoan the necessity of having to deal with something repeatedly or take advantage of the opportunity to reconsider.

Mercury rules all matters of thought, communications, and short distance travel, such as commuting and errands. Because these are so integral to all levels of human activity, you may find yourself in any situation wishing you had said something differently taken another route, or typed a letter more carefully. With Mercury retrodgrading through Libra, contracts, especially those of law and/or partnership will have to be carefully re-examined. Misunderstandings with lovers and other partners are likely to surface. Don't blame retrograde Mercury for these problems! They already exist. Take advantage of retrograde Mercury to analyze, criticize, and rectify the problems as they come up.

The sun sign predictions below show the area of your life most affected by the retrogradation of Mercury through September and October only if you were born in the last 12 days of your sun sign. If you were born in the first 3 days of your sign, read the sign previous. If you were born from 4 to 18 days after the sun sign change you will experience the transit variously, sometimes as described for your own sign and sometimes for the previous sign. Be prepared to deal with either situation.

Aries: Brush up on communications skills, working for exact expression of your ideas. You will likely be called upon to do this in a work setting, whether it involves learning to write in a particular format or just cleaning up your punctuation. (Alas, this could also be having to clean up the files.) Manual communicafions skills such as signing or typing can be vastly improved.

Taurus: As you look through your creative writing you may be amazed at having written such godawful drek. Try to find pleasure, or at least satisfaction in the tasks of revision and editing. Verbal and mental games can be especially amusing if you're not hell-bent on winning. Remember, it's how you are play the game, and your opponents will teach you some interesting techniques you can use in the next round.

Gemini: If there's something you've been wanting to tell your parents, this is the opportunity to have it out at length. You may prefer to reconsider and bring it out more tersely after Oct 10. Domestic issues may require repeated attention, negotiation, and re-negotiation with roommates; but the final agreements can be quite satisfying, if not easily acheived.

Cancer: As much as you want to say just what's on your mind, you may have trouble making up your mind. If your friends are frustrated with your mixed messages, you're even more so. Rather than giving out opinions that change the next day, this is a good time to listen to all possible positions and assimilate information from all sources. You can try out different ideas without committing yourself at this time.

Leo: Financial negotiations should be handled carefully and not considered final until after Oct 10. In these 2 months you may have to re-evaluate some of your personal values. At different times you will have different ideas of what's important. You may have to yield a previous stand so try to be graceful about it.

Virgo: You want to express yourself flawlessly, but tend to get frustrated when you realize you don't have all the facts in order. Don't be so serious, life's too mysterious. Enjoy small outings with a friend, but feel free to change courses in mid-stream.

Libra: This month and next provide an excellent opportunity to worry yourself into a frenzy, but your self-criticism will prove more effective if you keep a goal in mind and concentrate on improvement. Don't fret if that goal keeps changing. Remember that minds are like bedsheets; the more they're used, the more they need changing.

Scorpio: If you're having trouble keeping up with your friends it may offer some comfort to know that they can barely keep up with themselves. They look to you for stability, but can sweep you up into their personal maelstroms. Hold them as you would a kite, standing firmly, but allowing them to weave and bob. Politics can get messy during the retrograde. Allow your motions to be tabled until after Oct 10.

Sagittarius: Career plans can get sidetracked during the retrograde as communications with your boss need re-clarification. Your ideas may receive wide attention even when you're just thinking aloud. Don't let yourself be pinned to a particular position until you're certain you won't want to change your mind later.

Capricorn: The mind goes wandering, possibly in circles. While you're going over familiar territory re-examine philosophical and religious ideas that you've taken for granted. Travel plans made before Oct 10 should not be finalized until after that date unless you're willing to be extremely flexible.

Aquarius: Weird necromantic calls from the dear departed or obscene phone calls may provoke you to worry about danger. How do you deal with danger? You can come to understand your own sense of power and ways to express strength more effectively. Strong commitments voiced before Oct 10 can become a source of trouble.

Pisces: Communications with your partner can become difficult. You try so hard to understand the other point of view that you lose track of your own. Overly receptive to other views you may change your mind so many times that people will think you're running trips on them. These 2 months can be good for analyzing problems in a relationship, but don't force any solutions at this time.

Letters (continued from page 4)

An open letter to Tom Waddell And the Gay Olympics Committee

So far, Gay Games I has been a mostly wonderful, uplifting event to see. My heartfelt compliments to those athletes/organizers who put so much work into making this timely event happen.

However, the way the Games are being presented so far has been very disturbing. This event, like so many others before it that include a cross-section of our community, seems to mean very different things to different kinds of people.

While I understand the need to counter homophobic stereotypes, there seems to be an over-emphasis on making us seem like something we're not—straight.

In watching coverage of the Games on local news stations, I was angered and insulted to hear organizers state that one of the main (and I'm sure not the only) purposes of the event was to "counter the negative stereotype of homosexuals (read 'men') as limp-wristed people who lisp, flounce around, etc, etc, etc." (You'll pardon me; my quote is as accurate as memory permits; I did not write it all down.) Making a special effort to qualify that "many" of the participants are Gay, the newscast also informed us that events included athletes from "all over the world."

Frequently a vocal admirer of Rita Mae Brown's, I was disappointed and angry to read her statement (at an opening event far too pricey for me to attend) that the Games are "not about homosexuality" but rather about "individual rights and freedoms." Really sorry you think so, Rita. Perhaps you'll take a minute someday and explain to me how a "respectable" campaign for "individual rights and freedoms" has a prayer of advancing our Gay asses out of an increasingly embattled position in this country. This seems to attempt to downplay the positive contribution that being Lesbian/Gay adds to the Games.

With regard to countering negative stereotypes, what the hell kind of reason is this to organize and hold events for Lesbian and Gay athletes? Talk about groveling for acceptance! There seems to be a very vocal portion of the GGI Committee who seem hell bent on proving that "most of us are just like staight people" (or trying real hard, anyway). This seems particularly evident in statements to the press about Gay men, although I'm sure there are many Lesbians who just as desperately favor assimilation in return for a measure of "tolerance". I'm as painfully aware as any of us that homophobic stereotypes are not what we're all about. But I'm equally and emphatically aware that we are not just like everybody else. Our different-ness is one of the best parts of being gay.

Myself, people I've followed the competition with, as well as friends who are competing, are doing so as an incredibly positive action, not a reaction to negative stereotypes. Some of the very best athletes thus far have been butch women as well as gay men who hardly seem obsessed with the tense, uptight, jerky self-presence so treasured as "butch" on Castro St. And no wonder. I doubt they have time, being far too preoccupied with an incredibly high standard of athletic excellence. Most seem quite content to be simply perceived as open, proud Gay athletes.

It's embarassing to hear you and your associates, Dr. Waddell, rail away against (mostly male) stereotypes, and carefully point out to people that a large part of what GGI is about concerns making a squeaky clean impression on middle america. Seems to many of us that Lesbian/Gay athletes are doing far better than that by being exactly who and what we are. I have no apologies whatever for dykes on motorcycles or in black leather, and I found out some years ago that drag queens are truly some of the toughest men I'm proud to know.

Finally, (and on a somewhat different tack) I'm very much looking forward to competing in Gay Games II. And I'm wondering if there isn't some way of setting up a fund (starting now) whereby partial airfare could be subsidized for deserving athletes from Asia, Africa, Latin America? I really like the emphasis on our internationality this time, but found most of the too-few participants from other countries to be from "developed" origins. It's a well known fact that athletic excellence is hardly confined to the First World. While this certainly is in no way your responsibility alone, it would be a great thing if the next games could be an even more global event. So that I'm not misinterpreted as heaving pot-shots from the sidelines, please know I'm ready, willing, and eager to assist in the set up of such a fund.

Hoping to hear from you on all of this,
Tom Plageman

Capturing the Essence

I just wanted to say that Linda & John did a beautiful article [Gay Olympiad I, *Coming Up!* August, 1982]. I appreciated what you had to say and felt you (being listening to many) were able to capture the essence of the Games.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Gary M. Stark

From Death to Birth

No one was more appalled than this writer by the torching of Boston's *Gay Community News*, although unlike *Coming Up!*, *GCN* paper rarely, if ever, has shown the courage to publish any views dissenting sharply from its own fixed, absolutist dogma. Yet in the August *Coming Up!* it is the ineffable John Kyper, of all people, who suggests the Moral Majority may have been the culprits—the same John Kyper whose hatred and contempt for SF rivals that of the Moral Majority itself!

Lest any reader infer that this writer has any use for the "Far Right" in Central America, let me say merely that I regard Marcos as a Filipino version of Somoza, and also thus doomed, in the long run. However, the kind of revolution supported by many priests both there and in Central America seems to be the ultimate fraud. It totally fails to address the root causes, chief of which is over-population. And who is most responsible for perpetuating the ignorance (and concomitant misery) of peasants in these still largely feudalistic societies? The self-same priests themselves, of course.

Is it sheer coincidence that El Salvador has been afflicted with the highest birth rate of any country in Latin America? Or that the population of the Philippines has almost doubled in the past 35 years? Would Mexico itself "need" to export its huge surplus population to the U.S. were it not for the "sit-down strike" by priests against disseminating birth-control techniques among the masses there?

Is it sheer coincidence that the highest birth rate in Asia is boasted (if that's the right word) by the poorest country in Asia, Bangladesh? This utterly blind, irrational resistance to modern birth-control methods (especially the much maligned "Pill") seems to me to be a hangover from the past, when more kids made economic sense. Does it any longer?

Yet such programs cannot be imposed from without, or by the U.S. especially, which would at once be accused of promoting a form of genocide. Thailand, however, has made enormous strides via a high-powered campaign launched by one concerned individual there, a campaign stressing that more babies mean lower income per person and making condoms freely available. The tax structure also rewards smaller families.

Let Kyper and company switch their focus from political revolution as a cure-all (a hopeless snare and a delusion) to another kind of revolution, *peaceful*, which Jonas Salk put in a nutshell when he said, "We must shift our emphasis from *death control* to *birth control* in the century ahead."

Reed Vernon

John Kyper responds

A letter to *Coming Up!*

I am deeply flattered, if a little bemused, by Heidi Gosseler's and Reed Vernon's letters in the August issue of *Coming Up!* trashing my article about my visit to Nicaragua. I feel like the intended victim of a kamikaze attack, who emerges unscathed to watch his would-be attackers crash-land ignominiously.

In her scatological tirade Gosseler tells me to go to Russia (how many times have I been told that in the last 15 years?). As a matter of fact, I oppose Soviet intervention in Poland and Afghanistan for the *exact* same reasons that I opposed U.S. intervention in El Salvador and Nicaragua: Latin America is, in truth, our own colonial Eastern Europe to rape and plunder at will. Reagan and Brezhnev have far more in common with each other than either does with me, and it is evident from her authoritarian tone that Gosseler has a lot more in common with the Soviet system than she is ever likely to admit.

Reed Vernon is certainly a strange characer, with his mania for attacking me repeatedy (here and in the *Bay Guardian*, as well as sending his typically rambling letters to some of my friends). As one who has long missed the dear, departed Rev. Ray Broshears, I am overjoyed to see he finally has a worthy successor. All that Vernon now needs is a clerical collar and his own newspaper.

John Kyper

Write to Prisoners!

Dear *Coming Up!*:

I just saw a copy of your interesting paper last night that a friend of mine had in his cell. I was proud to see a paper that is so out front about being gay, and liking it as a way of life. I come from a small Mid-Western town where it was so small that if anyone in the town had the slightest idea that you were "funny", you couldn't get the time of day. Now I'm stuck in prison in Calif., cut off from my family completely because of my "funniness." But I've learned to live my own life, regardless. I have a couple more years to do in this prison, but would love to hear from all my gay brothers and sisters out there who have the time to write to a lonely gay man that enjoys it all. My name is Keith V. Capezio, I'm 5'9", brown hair, blue eyes, tattoos everywhere, and super healthy. My mailing address is: Keith V. Capezio, C-39376, Room #6298, P.O. Box A, San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93409-0001. Besides hoping you people will continue with making gay something to be proud of, I also want you to put my name on your subscription list for the next two years, if possible. Thanking you in advance.

Keith Vincente Capezio

Dear Friends:

I found an issue of your paper, and I like the over-all presentation. But the reason I am writing is to ask a favor.

I'm a 29 yrs w/m gay, I've been in prison 4 years and my release date as of now is Jan 1984 and I would like to find somebody who might be interested in a 30 yr fag. It would make it easier to parole to the streets if I have an address and job, both of which are very important factors to being paroled.

My request is, would you place an ad in your paper, for pen pals, friends who might be interested in helping another "gay person" to re-adjust to the world, as while this is an all male environment, it's not gay, and there is a difference.

Please drop me a note if you decide to or not, if nothing else I'll get at least one letter. You all take care as I remain with best wishes, and gay pride.

Sincerely,
Patrick Earl
#20149-148 I
U.S. Penitentiary
Box W
Lompoc, CA 93438

Dear *Coming Up!*,

I am locked down, straight white man. I'm 32, 6'1", 190 lbs., blue eyes, flaming red hair and beard. And I'm also an Aries. I heard of your paper, so I thought that I've been down long enough that I've got that call to hear from someone. I do know you have the right not to publish this, but if you do every sunrise & sunset I'll thank you.

Roy L. Jaggers C-30030 Rm 5302
California Men's Colony - East
P.O. Box A
San Luis Obispo, Calif. 93409-0001

Dear Sirs:

I was told that you run ads in your paper for people like me. Well I ain't never run no ad before, so I don't rightly know what you need to know. So I'll give you what the CDC gives me.

Name: James M G S Wolfe... Height 6'0".... Weight 150#....Race: White...Hair: Brown....Eyes: Blue....Present Occupation: Convict....Past Occupation: Placer Miner & Back Woodsman.

My address is CMC Rm. 5376, P.O. Box A, San Luis Obispo, Ca., 93409-0001.

Thank you for your time.

James Wolfe

P.S. I ain't much on writing too good, but I do like to write folks, and sure do like hearing from them. Do you think they will send a photo when they write me? Ain't needed but would like to know who I'm talking to.

Statement from CUAV

Please publish the enclosed statement issued by the Board of Directors of Community United Against Violence, Inc. pursuant to the departure of Mr. Robert Smith from CUAV's employ. This matter has been of concern to some in the lesbian and gay community and we ask that it be printed as a community service in the interests of clarifying any misconceptions concerning the matter:

"The Board of Directors of CUAV, Inc. regrets its failure to utilize proper procedures in its recent dealings with Mr. Bob Smith. The Board hopes to use the occasion of Mr. Smith's departure from his position at CUAV as an opportunity to address some of the problems which he has brought to the attention of the Board during his tenure as Executive Director. The Board wishes Mr. Smith well in his future endeavors."

Randy Stallings
Simone Fleming
Co-chairs

Sometimes you get more than you're itching for.

Intimate moments can make for pleasant memories, but occasionally, something a lot less pleasant lingers as well—crabs, for example. Now there's RID,® a liquid treatment that kills crabs in 10 minutes and provides rapid relief of itching. RID contains a safe, medically proven natural ingredient at almost twice the concentration of the leading non-prescription product. Each package also includes an instruction brochure and fine-tooth comb for lice and nit removal. You can buy RID at your pharmacy without a prescription and begin treatment at once.

But remember, 38% of the people with crabs have been found to have something worse, like VD. So if you think you may have been exposed to something more than crabs, see a doctor.

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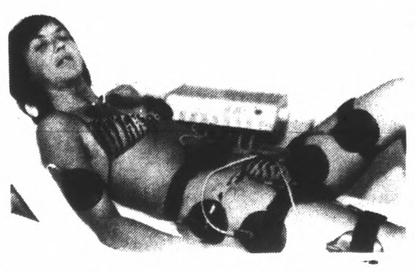

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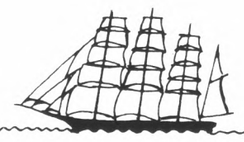

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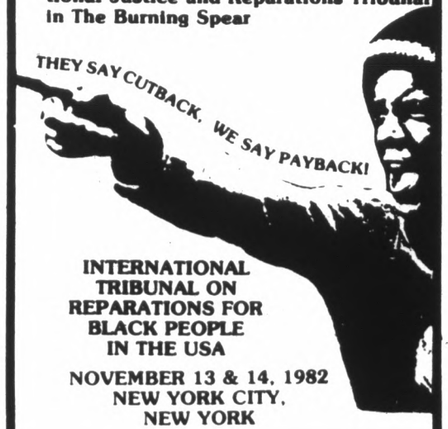

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Cabaret checkerboard

by Gary Menger

Can't Help Lovin' Weslia Whitfield

An unusual evening of musical theater, *Can't Help Lovin'*, opened August 15 at the Open Theater Cafe (441 Clement Street) and is expected to run there Saturdays through Tuesdays until mid-October.

The show combines the formidable talents of **Jack and Ellen Brooks** (both conceived and wrote the show; the latter directed), with some of our city's finest musical performers. The show's star, **Weslia Whitfield,** is an extraordinary vocalist (perhaps this City's best)—she portrays Helen Morgan in 1941, at a time when that star was seriously ill and confined to a hospital, just a week or two before her death.

The entire action of the play is confined to a single day when she's visited by Jerome Kern and Oscar Hammerstein, II, portrayed by **Billy Philadelphia** and **Bob Cossitt,** respectively. Both are entertaining in their roles, and more than capable of meeting the musical demands of the show, but Ms. Whitfield wins top honors for the evening, for both acting and singing excellence.

The show's brightest personality, and also a very fine vocalist, is **Baomi Butts,** playing Ruth Lawson, a former entertainer who'd been cast years before in the chorus of "Show Boat" and is now Helen Morgan's nurse.

Few of the several Kern melodies in *Can't Help Lovin'* are performed in their entirety; they're offered as memories being shared by the characters. Fans of any one of the performers who are accustomed to seeing them as cabaret soloists or in revue may be disappointed that music takes a back seat to drama, and fans of the music of Jerome Kern may be disappointed that many of the songs performed are trite; among the less significant of Kern's prodigious legacy.

Photo by Lens on Wheels

Can't Help Lovin'

But if this isn't for the most part a "humalong" kind of show, it's yet a strongly interesting one. Jack and Ellen Brooks have taken an intriguing idea: What if Morgan, Kern and Hammerstein visited with one another before her death? What would they have thought and felt? Had to say to each other? Who were they at that point, and what did they hope for? The fictional encounter they've created to answer those questions is both plausible and entertaining; the show is definitely worth a visit. (Drinks are served at the Open Theater, but not during performance. Reservations: 386-3086.)

Concert Shows in the Cabarets

Val Diamond, beloved zany of *Beach Blanket...* fame, and winner of the Cabaret Gold Awards both as Outstanding Female Vocalist and Entertainer of the Year, will do another wild, one-woman show at the Boarding House on Tuesday, September 7... and **David Reighn,** most prominent of San Francisco's male vocalists and also a two-time Cabaret Gold winner, is back for a special benefit concert at Great American Music Hall on Saturday, September 11.

More Stages for New Faces

Chi Chi Theatre, at 440 Broadway, will present cabaret vocalists, every Sunday and Monday evening in September (watch for Tuck & Patti, opening on 9/19 for four of those evenings), and the **Plush Room** will resume a similar policy this month every Monday and Tuesday evening. **Roxy Roadhouse** is so pleased with the attendance for their showcase presentations on Tuesday evenings that they've extended the policy to Mondays this month. (Roxy also offers **Lynda Bergren** on Saturdays this month in a departure from her usual format: a tribute to Broadway, featuring a host of special guests.)

On Stage...

"Goodness Gwendolyn. Look What Has Happened to Ernest." What a title? And that's just the beginning. Whatashow Productions, under the auspices of Golden Gate Metropolitan Community Church, present this musical dance farce based on Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest*, directed by William M. Dowsing (as a child he was "Porky" in the *Our Gang* comedies). Opens Sept 18, 8:30pm. Continues Sat 8:30pm, Sun 2pm & 8:30am thru Sept. California Hall, 625 Polk St, SF. $5/$2srs & disabled. Limited seating. Call 431-3878.

544 Natmoa Theater Workshop presents a San Francisco premiere with its new production of **Sunsets: A Trilogy,** three plays by Cal Yeomans. Fri-Sun, Sept 10-Oct 17th, 8pm, $5. Sunday performances signed for the hearing impaired. 544 Natoma (between Mission & Howard Streets), SF. Reservations: 621-2683.

This is your last chance! Factwino is about to leave the city. The Bay Area's tea-totallin' titan has taken on the forces of malevolance and error every weekend this summer. Labor Day Weekend, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, Sept 4th, 5th, and 6th is the last chance to see **Factwino Meets Armageddon Man.** 2pm, Sunken Meadow behind the De Young Museum in GG Park, SF.

An ode to a jar of peanut butter? A three-foot chocolate chip cookie? Your idea of near-perfect pleasure? Then don't miss **Left-overs,** the highly praised original work that explores the ups and downs of a compulsive eater. A witty, introspective contemporary theatre work about women, weight, and self-image in America, performed by Marcia Kimmell, Deah Schwartz, & Annie Wilford. Gumption Theater, 1563 Page St, SF. Sept 17-Oct 30, Fri & Sat. Reservations recommended: 552-1653.

PHoto by Garry Parrish

Theatre Rhinoceros opens with Sins! **Sins of the Father,** that is, a farce centering on a gay Episcopal priest and his small-town, conservative church. Written by Robert J. Graham and directed by Allan Estes, Sins opens the '82-'83 season on Sept 30, 8:30pm. Continues thru Nov 6, Thurs-Sun. Two previews: Sept 26 & 27. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926-16th St. (at S. Van Ness) in SF. Reservations: 861-5079. A world-premiere at Studio Rhino: Charles Henrich's **Torn Tulle,** a drama exploring the decaying world of four drag queen hookers trapped in the backstage dressing room of a crumbling male porno house. Thurs-Sun, Sept 9-Oct 10. $6. One preview: Sept 7, $3.

Sha Na Na, Genesis, Devo, the *Pretenders*—an evening that takes off in the 50s and barely stops in the 80s. **The Musign Theatre Company** offers a unique musical entertainment in sign, mime, and dance. At The Boarding House, 901 Columbus Ave, SF. Previews Sept 3, 4, 8-10. Runs Sept 15-Oct 9, Wed-Sun. For further info: call 441-4333.

Things That Need To Be Said

by daniel Curzon

MEMBERS ONLY. I must be getting old, but when I pick up most gay magazines these days all I ever see is cock, cock, cock. I take that back. There are also distended assholes galore and occasional camp humor. *In Touch* has become *I.T.* ("it") and "it" doesn't even carry book reviews any longer. *Mandate, Honcho, Hump,* and on and on. There must be a lot of sexually unsatisfied gay men out there, if you think about it...

Since I've started this column, I've learned just how many screaming queens there are in the gay world. If you say one little objective things, these people will leave irate messages on your answering machine. If they aren't careful, they're going to give homosexuals a bad name...

PATERNITY. This writer is going to become a father. That's right. I know a lesbian midwife who arranges anonymous "matches" between gay men and lesbians. What's interesting is the number of people I've mentioned it to who express outrage: "Unnatural!" "Immoral!" Of course there are moral issues involved (such as what happens to the child if the mother abandons it or dies. Answer: the lesbian's lover or family takes it.) But why shouldn't two consenting adults produce a child if it will be loved and cared for? What's the world coming to when the homos start reproducing! I suspect that some of the outrage is because gays have found a way to have it both ways. The mid-wife's biggest problem, aside from transporting the male's "donation" in time, is finding gay men in S.F. who don't use drugs...

Out of all the many reviews of my plays at the One Act Theatre this summer only one (in an important paper) could be called a completely bad review, amongst plethora of praise. My straight colleagues think I should protest the inherent homophobia in some of the critic's remarks: "Gay Writer Writes Play About Heterosexuals." No doubt it does smack of "Jew Writes Play About Non-Jews." But I've decided to let it go. Must be getting tired. You can go crazy knocking your head against the taboo. What I do lament is the apparent belief that there is something inherently *different* about the human experiences of heterosexuals and homosexuals...

There seems to be little community whatsoever between the gay writers of this town. I've never even met Rita Mae Brown and barely know Armistead Maupin. Are they meeting for cocktails and wit—all these folks—and not inviting little old me? Or are we all out ther slugging away on our own? Writing is a lonely business. Do we have to make it even lonlier? Why doesn't somebody start a salon, like Gertrude and Alice's...

I didn't go to the Castro Street Fair this year. I've never liked fairs that consist mostly of booths full of trinkets and a horde of people wandering around looking desperately for some fun. I always think others are just pretending to be having a good time. Aren't they?...

REPLY. I didn't choose to reply to that nasty letter about this columnist in the last issue from some irascible non-fan of yours truly. But now I will: I can't be both boring *and* bitchy. Give me a break. I'll admit to one or the other, but not *both!* But of course my critic has every right to say what he thinks.

Sure hope this new interferon treatment cures KS. Otherwise we may all be in for some real trouble real soon. Thank god, some non-gays have come down with it too (well, you *know* what I mean) or no money would have been forthcoming to help cure mere queers...

Studio W: A Women's Space

Studio W, a new art gallery and film studio devoted to promoting original work by women artists is a welcome and long-overdue realization. Located at 3137-22nd Street at Capp, the gallery exhibits art created by women, and also serves as an archival center that documents women's cultural and artistic achievements.

Much word-of-mouth has been responsible for generating Studio W's publicity in such a short time. The gallery holds a Full Moon Potluck once a month open to everyone, at which one can mingle, browse and sample food. It also hosts a monthly "open mike" program for women poets, offering beginning film classes, and holds theatre workshops and performances of original plays by women playwrights. This consistent programming upholds the gallery's basic premise: to provide an opportunity for women to show their work and for everyone to see and experience it. In the words of gallery owner, Sharon Medairy, "These women have been creating all their lives. I act as the coordinator who provides the physical space for them. Women need to show the creative outpouring of our lives. What's significant about our lives after we're gone? What's to show? A car, a house? It's *art:* it's the tangible results of the creative urge."

Studio W's premise extends beyond the walls of the gallery itself. It serves a salon where there is an exchange of ideas, critique and feedback. A total involvement of both artists and gallery forms a "spectrum of support"—the artists meet and discuss where and how to further publicize their work.

Three artists, Sheila Ganz, Lauren Galanes, and Vicky Chaet whose work has been shown at Studio W, were represented at the San Francisco Arts Fair in Moscone Center on August 16-18. The gallery encourges a non-competitive and supportive environment by continuing th show art by new and previously-shown artists.

The gallery shows art work on a rotating group-show basis. The diversity of medium, style, technique and theme runs the gamut and was evident at Studio W's first group show in April. Included were oils, acrylics, photography, watercolors and drawings, graphic prints, jewelry and fiber sculpture in abstract and representational forms.

Currently Studio W is involved in no less than three women's art shows. Morgana LeFey, visionary artist and the first featured artist at the gallery, is participating in "Art in the Park" in the Bandshell Concourse in Golden Gate Park on Sept 4th and 5th. Additionally, Joanne Wohfeld, Linda Larraine, Dawn Lewis, and Laurie White recently opened their show on August 30th at Garbo's, popular women's hair salon on 696 Valencia at 18th Street. Proprietors Gail Winston and Audrey Hallock are a welcomed support to women's art. With an established business to operate, both women have generously offered their time and space to these four local artists. This show will continue through Oct. 18th and is the first in a series of art projects with participating San Francisco businesses.

Featured in the gallery through Sept. 26 is hand-colored mono silver prints by Eileen P. Goldenberg in *Substance* also featuring Lauren Galanes and Vicky Chaet.

Studio W's first theatre performance review (Aug 5th to Sept 25th) is *Fantasy in Flesh pay a Dollar talk to a Nude Girl!* Written and directed by Lea Delaria, it is the exciting birth of women's theatre at the gallery. Showtime is 10pm. Reservation number is 346-9401.

The gallery is open on weekends—Saturday noon to 6pm, Sunday noon to 5pm, and at various other times for special events. The art is offered at very affordable prices in a warm, non-intimidating environment. For further information contact Studio W at (415) 641-9299.

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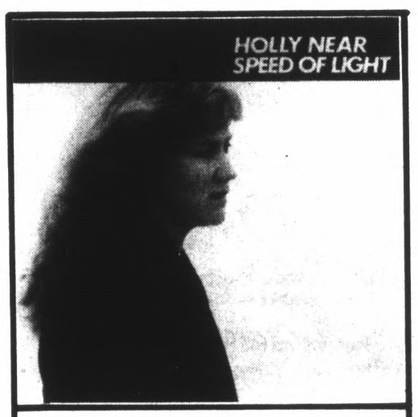

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Announcements

ANNOUNCING:
A Concert/Benefit for the Women's Building of the Bay Area, featuring Gwen Avery, a singer, songwriter, recording artist who sings about real life, drawing on both traditional black forms and her own experience. The benefit will be held at SF Women's Building, Saturday, Oct. 2nd at 8:00. Tickets are available at the door: sliding scale $5-10 dollars. For more information, plase call 431-1180.

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Lesbians in love with love: *In Search of Survival*

by Adele Prandini

At its best, Theater is a moving experience—not something to view from a distance as a mere spectator's art. There's nothing like a great play to restore one's faith in life! If the play happens to be a comedy, then the benefits are doubled. I had the good fortune of attending Mazel Looney's one-act comedy *In Search of Survival*—a wonderful first attempt by the writer.

The plot focuses on three somewhat closeted lesbians, one of whom is about to marry a man. Oh, I can hear you now: What's so funny about that?! The plot thickens when the woman's ex-lover returns from San Francisco, causing some complications.

There is much to like about this show. The characters (four all together) are diverse and believable. Currently the cast includes Anne Etue as March, a wonderfully funny marijuana-dealing cupid; her lover Jan, the more serous-minded psychologist portrayed by Sharon Pollack; Tricia Johnston as Natalie, the bride-to-be; and Brenda, the bride's true love, played by Andrea Pruseau. Both couples attain wonderfully tender moments on stage, much to their acting credit.

The show moves along at a quick pace, just like a comedy should. Some of the lines in this piece are absolute treasures. My favorite: "Stick with the herd and you'll end up a lampchop!"

In Search of Survival is a touching theater piece, though I must admit that I am a sucker for a love story. This one comes complete with prolonged kissing and other interesting physical activity. Much of the dialogue feels familiar, straight out of our own pasts, dealing with relatives, jobs, desires, dreams. Which of us hasn't faked an illness to avoid dinner with our girl friend's family? Seeing this little bit of true life acted out somehow reassures us, there's a certain warmth in identification.

Now before you begin to think that this mean old critic has suddenly gone off the deep end and become a starry-eyed groupie, I must tell you that the production was not flawless. Some of the acting is stiff, and the writing tends to oversimplify the issues. At one point the politically-correct hairs on the back of my neck stood at attention. But all in all, the problems are small and forgivable: how can you begrudge a lesbian love story? Just a word of caution: please don't expect this play to explore all the whys and wherefores of bisexuality: the focus and sympathy of the writer is definitely lesbian.

For the most part the direction is low key. Director Gail Leondar has included some wonderful blocking, which brings life and spontaneity to the stage. I especially loved a short sequence in which a character stumbles about in the dark, trying to find a ringing phone, which stops ringing as soon as she finds the light. So wonderfully typical!

In a brief conversation after the show, writer Mazel Looney told me that she rented the theater before she began writing the play, and like most playwrights, she continued to write and rewrite up until opening night. After it's present three-week run, the show closes to be rewritten once again before reopening.

If you are a lesbian in love with love, go see this play. If not—go anyway, *In Search of Survival* is delightful.

Where can you see this play? The New Zepher Theater, 595 Mission Street (at 2nd), Thursday through Saturday at 8:30pm, until September 4th. Reservations and information are available at 495-6582. And watch for the reopening!

Ladies (continued from front page)

entirely too much. It is unladylike to accept any money for work.

* Procreation, not recreation. Close your eyes and do your duty.

* Protect the rights of the Unconceived. Oppose menstruation, masturbation and other forms of mass murder.

"Put our nation on the track, one step forward, three steps back," Cholesterol and Banks chanted.

This summer the Ladies Against Women marched in the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade to decry homosexuality, an alleged practice they find confusing and offensive.

"To paraphrase Miss Anita Tyrant, who was actively involved in LAW back in the Reagan for Shah campaign, it would solve the energy crisis if we just burned faggots," said Cholesterol. "The word used to mean fuel, and it's obvious that what was good enough for the Dark Ages is good enough for the Reagan years."

Banks agreed. "We believe to sum it up, that Ladies should be Ladies, and men should be men, and no one should be women, especially not men." According to Cholesterol, the Ladies often write to Reverend Jerry Fallout, their favorite upholder of the nuclear family. "It's really touching that he has time to go through all that junk mail he sends out and personally underline the important words," Cholesterol cooed.

LAW has future plans to take their message to the streets, using girl-illa tactics when necessary to reach the American public. Banks says that LAW has recently been negotiating for a TV series to be sponsored by Profit and Gamble, "the makers of all our favorite household products including one product which we sorely miss, the long lamented Rely tampon," she stated. "I hope all the young ladies in developing nations who are using leftover ones really enjoy them."

Upon concluding my interview with Cholesterol and Banks, the women behind the Ladies, Gail Williams and Selma Vincent, turned up at the Open Theater Cafe. Their theater group, the Plutonium Players, which Williams describes as "a crazy-ingrown-family-feud-consensus group committed to performing political satire," will be appearing at this Clement Street location on the last Thursday night in September and continuing every Thursday night throughout October. The Plutonium Players will also appear at the September 7th Teach-In on Social Justice and It's Enemies, at Glide Church in San Francisco, and at the El Salvador Festival at Waterfront Park in Berkeley on Saturday, September 19th.

Williams noted that in addition to participating in these performances the Ladies Against Women will make a special appearance at a Women's Sociologist's Conference later in the month. LAW is also searching for volunteers to assist in the organizing of a Sperm Rights Rally sometime in the fall.

LAW consciousness-lowering kits, which include a laminated membership card, helpful hints for doing girl-illa theater, and LAW shocking pink press releases, are available at 1600 Woolsey Street, Box 7, Berkeley, CA 94703.

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Thousands of Women Will Be There—Will You?

by Kim Corsaro and Regina Gabrielle

On September 23, 1982, the Third Annual West Coast Women's Music Festival begins. No single event in the recent history of the women's movement has more divided our community than what happened at the 1981 Second Annual Festival in Yosemite. At the Festival a group of women, hundreds strong came together to protest what they saw as the racism and classism of the Festival and its organizers. Robin Tyler's angry response at the Festival left the movement united and very determined to push for resolution around the issues raised, and to bring that back to the communities we all live in. But that was at Yosemite, in the woods, in the midst of an encampment of 4,000 women.

What has happened to that movement, to the issues it brought up? How did the community take responsibility to deal with the Festival around the issues raised? And where do we as a community stand on those issues now, in September, 1982, almost one full year after last year's Festival?

What has happened with Robin Tyler? How has this year's Festival taken responsibility to change in response to the demands made last year? Has it changed? Or—another important question that we in the community who took part in the movement have to raise—how much was Robin Tyler scapegoated?: Somehow, did Robin Tyler & Festival become the symbol for everything that's wrong with the women's movement, and was all that dumped on them in those four long days in the woods of Yosemite and through everything that happened after?

Some very real issues around race and class came up. *Coming Up!* covered the events surrounding the Festival to try to make things clear. Community meetings went on so that we all could discuss what it was that we wanted. But one year later there is still confusion, and many women are undecided as to whether or not to attend this year's Festival. Lots of pain flew around for lots of people last year, and perhaps that is the place where a good portion of the community still stands.

At the Yosemite Festival demands were made to Robin Tyler and The WCWMF, and the community made plans to continue discussion when we all got back home...to work together, to build a Festival closer to our community vision, to meet as a community to organize ourselves, to decide whether to work with Robin on the upcoming Festival or boycott it, or plan an alternative Festival...and that didn't happen. Robin Tyler was not allowed to attend the community meetings after the festival, and the community did not delegate leaders or a coalition of women to work with her on the Festival, to work around bringing about the changes everyone wanted. As a whole, the community fell apart and became unaccountable to the follow up of the demands we as a community made.

At the same time, Robin also did not initiate follow up with the community. She withdrew for a few months after the Festival. She did attend community meetings at other locations around the country during that time, but she did not organize a forum locally to address the issues raised at Yosemite. She did not publish the Festival budget as she had said she would. When she began preparations for this year's Festival, she contacted individuals for input into the process, instead of attempting a community meeting.

So here we are at the dawn of another West Coast Women's Music Festival and much is left unresolved. Some members of our community have chosen to make statements around the issues of the Festival, which we at *Coming Up!* feel are important for everyone to consider and so we are printing them here. The Festival has finally called a community meeting on Wednesday, September 8, for a thorough discussion of the issues. It's very much at last minute, but it could be a new beginning towards re-opening dialog around everything that happened last year and where we can go from there.

Personally, we feel that the Festival is symbolic of a lot of the issues we face in our every day lives. It was an incredible event at last year's Festival when all of us different types of women from so many different backgrounds got together to deal with all that went down. The feelings were so strong and so caring, that it felt sincerely real we would all continue the work begun in Yosemite. We talked of getting anti-racism groups organized and general networking. We planned to carry on the vision. We felt we could make it a reality.

Unfortunately and sadly, it wasn't too long after returning from the Festival that all the wonderful excitement and motivation began to wear off. We didn't continue. Nothing ever became of us as a community working around the Festival issues and what to do around dealing with the racism and classism in our lives. Nothing ever became of meeting with Robin and Festival staff.

Robin is still having her Festival, and a lot of women involved in the movement last year are going to the Festival. That's a big risk, especially considering the repercussions of last year. But this is a decision these women have made.

Things *have* changed in the Festival palnning. Bernice Lee and Sharhara Godfrey have worked hard and taken many risks as women of color involved with the movement who are now on the Festival staff. They should be commended for their courage and dedication.

Yes, the Festival made some mistakes—and the changes they've made are not total and complete, according to the demands made on them last year, but we would like to have seen some follow up on our part (the community). We feel that if we take the power to make criticism and make ourselves heard, then the buck doesn't stop there—as a community we must be accountable and responsible for what it is we've said. So, although the Third Women's Music Festival is before us and it doesn't totally reflect all the desires of last year's movement, we all at least must make responsible decisions whether to attend, based on the facts that:

(1) We as a community demanded time and space to voice our grievances, and we got that.
(2) We as a community voted to not let Robin attend our meetings, which was a mistake.
(3) We neglected to network with each other and then proceed to plan strategies for the Festival.

We're not talking about how Robin did not initiate any responsibility around getting a community meeting together until now; we're talking about our accountability as community members.

Yes, there are shit loads of issues around the Festival, and shit loads of issues in our daily lives. Let's clean it up and really start acting out of our hearts in the accountable and responsible fashion we all like to talk about. We will be at the Festival covering it...and continuing the struggle.

When we ended our article last year, we described the last day of the Festival, when a multi-cultural music and dance celebration took place by the lake. Hundreds of women gathered to sing, chant, and dance, "We Are the Women, We're Going to Change Things." That felt very real to those of us involved then. It seems imperative that we as a community try and remember that spirit in which we came together singing and dancing, the warm feeling we had for each other, and how we wanted to keep that spirit alive in our every-day dealings with each other. That was the least we took with us when we left the land, hoping to continue.

Remember?

From the Old Wive's Tales Collective

Thousands of Women Will Be There—Will You?
OLD WIVES TALES **WILL NOT**
What's different?

Nothing looks different. There is no apparent change or indication in the festival's flyer of understanding the criticisms made last year. The Festival remains unaccountable to the community.

(Please see festival flyer for reference to the quotes)

"...we think we know what you want... we think you are going to Love the acts we've got lined up for you..."

Are we going to love the cutting back of workshops and political education? Are we going to love that women with money can buy their way out of work, but poor women must work? Are we going to love a sliding scale that is completely inadequate to the reality of income differences in our community? Are we going to love that poor women who have to work for their fee are so "untrustworthy" they must post a bond to guarantee their appearance? Are we going to love that racism appears unimportant to the festival coordinators? Are we going to love that the performers are primarily white?

NO! We at Old Wives Tales are **not** going to love any of it. And we are not having a table at the vendors area this year.

We are deeply disturbed that after so many hours and meetings of constructive criticism to address real problems existing in the festival around racism and class issues, absolutely no visible action has been taken.

The festival offers an unparalleled opportunity to educate our community and ourselves around the diversity of our cultures, music and political issues. Instead the festival is exposing us to primarily white well known performers.

> "We are deeply disturbed that after so many hours and meetings of constructive criticism to address real problems existing in the festival around racism and class issues, absolutely no visible action has been taken."
>
> —*Old Wives Tales*

Last year some of the workshops were absolutely wonderful, like Bernice Reagon's workshop on coalition building, and many others by Charlotte Bunch, Flo Kennedy, etc.

Why is the festival limiting the space and time for workshops this time, only allowing them with written proposals six weeks in advance? Because of the criticisms last year about scheduling a major workshop in conflict with Third World programming, a so-called day of solidarity with Latin America?

The festival has the opportunity to increase class consciousness by providing a sliding scale based on income, and to encourage women with money to share their wealth, paying more than the average fee, to make possible for a larger participation by all of us. Instead, the festival is continuing to provide a work exchange system where women who don't have money are blamed for the problems of the system, and penalized by having to deposit money to guarantee their compliance. And that space is limited to women without money even if they are willing to work.

While "everyone" must do a workshift, women with an extra $20 can exempt themselves from working. "If you are planning NOT to do a workshift, please add $20 to your $80-$100 ticket price." It is the same old story—the ones with money "pay" to enjoy and have a good time, the ones without money have to work to be there.

Why is it that the festival could take the criticism two years ago around childcare, completely revise the childcare system and do an outstanding job, but can't take similiar kinds of action to deal with racism and the class issues which continue to be built into the festival?

We wanted a public acknowledgement that the festival heard the criticisms made by the community and that they were being addressed. Instead we received a flyer which perpetuates many of the same criticisms.

We, at Old Wives' Tales, think that it is time to take a stand NOT to support a festival that does not reflect our values and our politics. And we encourage women in the community to also take a stand.

Old Wives' Tales Collective
Tiana, Carol, Pell, Sherry

Shahara Godfrey, Festival Worker

> "Taking this risk; speaking my mind, may cost me a lot. Yet, on the other side of this, I gain a lot also. For all the womyn who are unsure, make a choice. I hope to see you there."
>
> —*Shahara Godfrey*

I expect nothing and I am ready for anything!
Yes, I am going to the third annual West Coast Women's Music Festival.
Yes, I have been offered a position as Performer's Food Coordinator and I have accepted...
Yes, I am aware of the ramifications of my actions.
Yes, I am also a firm believer in womyn taking care of ourselves in whatever manner we need to.

How do I as a black lesbian feminist continue to struggle when historically, my roots have been burnt so many times? My ethics around struggling in political issues convince me to continue. It has taken me close to a year to speak up again...

I am willing to take this risk again and go to the festival and be an active participant. I am also willing to take the responsibility that goes along with it.

Last year's Festival was a beginning in many ways for all of us to connect with our own dreams and visions: racism, classism, elitism, and anti-semitism; issues, in varying degrees of sounding boards; all catalysts for each other. Being one of the Kitchen Coordinators I had very little time for participation in activities outside of the kitchen, however, I felt so much.

I want all womyn to think about what it means to be at a Festival that is predominately attended by white womyn. What happened last year, for me, was very intense and necessary. Positively and/or negatively, a chain of events occurred. We must not forget this or any of our struggles. It is too important not to...we can learn from our mistakes as well as the mistakes of others...WE MUST.

Although there are no "leaders" in our community, must we sit back and wait for some to miraculously appear? I happen not to have that kind of time. Ethics and integrity are vital to me. Each one of us must take responsibility for our own choices and stand by them. I am doing what I need to do to take care of me.

Let me make this very clear. I am not the spokeswomyn for the Women of Color community. I do not want any allusions or suggestions to that idea, either.

Why must we waste time and energy focusing on the Festival and it's controversial herstory when we have it now as an umbrella that can be used to address issues as relevant and as significatnt to our lives?

There is no question that I am scared of being trashed for what I say, what I don't say, what is implied and not implied in my letter. I believe there are womyn who need to hear what I am saying.

I am also really tired of seeing the buck being passed. For me, I stopped passing it a long time ago. Is it so damned hard to think about our own ethics and integrity?

This letter is a definite risk. Yet, I am so damned frustrated and disgusted with seeing some of us (Womyn of Color, Jewish and white womyn) sit on the sidelines either jumping to be involved when it is to our advantage or watching "issues hit the fan" and bitch about what went wrong. I am not putting all my eggs in one basket with the hope that this Festival, this year, this time will make such an insurmountable difference that all my concerns are over. This is just one place. It can happen here, another beginning. The Festival is only a small part of the realities we face on a day-to-day basis. It is also unique. Here is a womyn only space, to share dialogue, to evolve, to grow and to love together.

This is my committment and my belief; my ethics. I want to continue struggling. I care so much.

Taking this risk; speaking my mind, may cost me a lot. Yet, on the other side of this, I gain a lot also. For all the womyn who are unsure, make a choice. I hope to see you there.

I am very interested in hearing womyn's comments and remarks about my letter.

Sincerely,
In Sisterhood and Struggle,
Shahara Godfrey

Ali Marrero, Worker

As a woman of color and staff person for the West Coast Women's Music Festival, and having worked with this Festival for three years, I will continue to work with it as long as women will let it continue to happen. This way I can assure that changes are made and that we as women who are doing something for our so-called community, can feel that things are being done, and that I-for one-am a part of the doing. I am a poor/working class Puerto Rican lesbian, who has worked in the women's community to make changes for many years. The one thing that pisses me off the most, is women who do nothing but complain, but when it comes down to doing any work, they are too burnt out! (quote, unquote). Well no one said it was going to be easy. Unless your class background is middle to upper, you have got to stand up and be counted as one of those who is continuing to work and struggle. I am tired of struggling! I want things to be politically correct right now! But the reality is that it takes a long time to erase the thousands of years of conditioning that we have been fed. I am beginning to believe that men are not our only enemy, but women hating women seems to hit closer to home, since this is what is becoming more evident, when all we do is attack each other instead of working together to reach the goals that we as individuals and organizations have. It is time to start loving ourselves more, and finding out more how we can help than how we can hurt.

I will no longer be invisible to white women or other women of color!!

I will speak up whenever I feel that someone is being treated unjustly!!

I am my own mouthpiece!!

So if anyone has a different idea of who I am talk to me.

I can be reached Monday thru Friday at the West Coast Women's Music Festival, 1195 Valencia St. 641-4893.

In Sisterhood,
Ali Marrero
Assistant to Director

The West Coast Women's Music Festival

We invite everyone concerned with the issue and allegations around the West Coast Women's Music Festival—especially the women of Old Wives Tales—to a community meeting on Wednesday, September 8th, 1982 at the Women's Building. This meeting was called by women of color on the Festival staff BEFORE Old Wives Tales' flyer was released, but the flyer shows that there is all the more reason for that meeting; this statement, and—finally—a real dialogue in the public eye about the Festival. We accept our own responsibility for not completing this process until now—it's been a traumatic year for the Festival, we've been grappling with a lot of changes internally, and trying to respond as best we could to the external criticisms and presures. Sometimes in the women's community we forget that there are enormous differences in the way we process and grow. We at the Festival know that we had made some mistakes; we also know we are moving forward, and we welcome the opportunity to clarify real issues and, FINALLY, lay to rest some of the rumors and innuendos about the Festival. We believe in the Festival. Like any other women-built institution, it is a fragile and imperfect creation—and, remember, we are young after only two years.

Some of us on the staff this year were involved directly in the political organizing at the Festival last year; some of us are relatively new to the women's community. We all share a vision of the best of what a Festival can be, and we share a commitment to the time and pain and process it takes to make that dream come true. We are also protective of that dream as it comes into being—and we will fight together for the truth to be heard.

. s time to set the record straight about the 1981 estival, and, now, in response to the Old Wives ales flyer, about the 1982 Festival.

1981 Festival—the facts:

- 24% of the Coordinators were women of color.
- There *were* community tents available.
- out of 10 Festival-sponsored workshops were pecifically about racism.
- 30 % of the Main Stage performing acts were women of color.
- The b idget was $258,000—$60,000 was paid to women wo kers. A profit was divided among the core staff, some of whom had worked for 60 hours a week for up to 6 months for $100-$150 per week.
- Robin Tyler received no salary whatsoever, and none of the profits.
- The Main Stage area cost $27,000, a little over 10% of the budget—where at other Festivals, the Main Stage accounts for a good 30-40% of the budget.
- Child Care cost $9,000, one third of all the stage budgets. And, this broke down to $62.50 per child (144 attended Camp Tell-Me-A-Riddle, a 24 hour a day planned program, where, except for infants, they could stay 24 hours a day.) This year we asked for mother's to help subsidize this expense, and thought that $5 per day was approximately what it would cost a mother to keep her child at home. We did not realize the number of mothers in our community with 2, 3, and even 4 children who would very understandably feel a real crunch adding on $60 to $80 to their own entrance fee. We never have, and never will turn away children, but we do hope that mothers can help contribute to help defray such a large cost.

As for the 1982 Festival, *of course* we responded to criticism, a major one we agreed with was the lack of a core full-time Festival staff who were women of color. This year, contrary to the Old Wives Tales' flyer, 30% of the Festival staff is women of color, including women involved in last year's struggles on the land, who are committed to following through the tumult of last year with the best spirit of what happened on the land.

1982 Festival—a Response to Old Wives Tales' flyer:

- Along with 30% of the staff representing diverse Third World Communities, 25% of the Festival Coordinators are women of color. Do we—the women of color on the Festival staff—not "care about racism?" We resent our invisibility in Old Wives Tales' flyer, and we insist on being heard, as women willing to struggle in the painful and inspiring process of coalition-building that Bernice Reagan articulated so eloquently last year. We cannot be afraid of our differences in the fight for unity. Those differences are our strengths as a movement.
- Rather than "cutting back" political education and cultural diversity, the 3rd Festival has expanded those areas. As a feminist organization, run by deeply political women, the Festival has taken risks each year by attempting to integrate a range of radical political events into it's texture. We've made mistakes. Last year's Solidarity Day was badly produced. It did however, represent a unique comittment in the herstory of women's music Festivals to broadening the scope of women's politics to include anti-imperialistic struggles, and we take proud credit for an honest attempt. This year, organically, a diverse group of women has taken responsibility for presenting a wide range of cultural and political events at the Festival:

1) A Networking Tent with full-time facilitators will provide a space for women to share political views, literature, and organizing experiences.
2) A 24-hour tent run by the Alcoholism Center for Women will embrace those members of the women's community struggling with alcoholism and co-alcoholism.
3) Puerto Rican women have organized "El Grito de Lares"—a commemoration on Thursday, September 23rd, of the Puerto Rican revolt against U.S. Imperialistic forces in 1898.
4) Jewish women will be conducting Yom Kippur services on Sunday evening, a feminist Kol-Nidray, and all Jewish women and their friends are invited to stay up on the land through the Monday break-fast.
5) Fall Solstice will be celebrated on Thursday evening.
6) We have incorporated suggestions for diversified community camping—areas for women of color, and older women, as well as disabled women, chemically-free, clean and sober, women with children, & women-only spaces

As for Workshops—there are more than ever planned. Isn't Old Wives Tales showing some of the elitism they supposedly oppose by assuming only "stars" could provide "wonderful" workshops? In the original Festival flyers, workshops were requested—months, and months ago—not the 6 weeks Old Wives Tales charged. And, the fact is there IS a "deadline" for workshops—a deadline for the outlines to get printed up in the Festival program. But we have also planned on last minute workshops and have informed everyone in the flyer to sign up at the 24-hour Networking tent.

Once again, at the 1982 Festival, 30% of the main stage acts are women of color. Perhaps Old Wives Tales are not familiar with women's music performers, other than the well-known names?

Regarding the money issues—sliding scale, workshifts, and work exchange. Unfortunately the Festival lives with the contradiction of being a women-owned, small business that must break even. The prices this year reflect the increases of our budget to over $300,000. We had to raise the prices and we simply cannot afford to let women in for free, unless they work—or to lower the sliding scale. We wish we could, but we can't. What we'd like to know is, does Old Wives Tales GIVE away books to women who cannot afford them, or sell records on a sliding scale? If they did, they'd be out of business and they know it.

We've been steadily working on a Work Exchange system. The Festival NEVER requested any woman to "post a bond" to guarantee her appearance for work exchange. Yes, the Festival was concerned that more than half the women who signed up last year never showed up for work exchange, thereby creating unjust hardship for sisters who did, and ended up doing double and triple shifts. *This* is an issue we'd like to see Old Wives Tales address if they demand accountability of one woman, of one organization, then they are obligated, morally, to demand accountability from the entire community... The letter sent out to work exchange applicants read: "The policies have not yet been set for this year's work exchange... we are toying with the idea of requiring a deposit..." and the letter went on to ask for community suggestions as to *how* to solve the no-show problem. No woman had any suggestions to offer, and the ones who did, supported the cash deposit idea. In fact, several women took it upon themselves to send in cash deposits—and each and every one of their checks was sent back. The Festival realized that the response was not representative of our diverse community, and finally came up with a solution that will depend on all of our energy, trust, and support. We have instituted a "buddy system" that will increase communication, committment and caring.

> "Yes, the Festival in both of its first two years made mistakes. So what? If we don't allow each other the freedom to make mistakes, we take away each other's ability to grow."
>
> —*The Festival*

Regarding workshifts— yes, we asked women who know that they will not contribute their workshift to the Festival, to help subsidize the women who will pick up the slack. And, we have better organized the workshifts so that they may function more smoothly, and increase the spirit of each and every one of us helping to make the Festival work. We welcome suggestions. Without workshifts, no women's Festival could survive.

Finally, a word about the general tone of Old Wives Tales' flyer, and the "constructive criticism" made last year.

Believe us, we learned a lot from the political criticism. But we disagree that all the criticism was constructive. Of over 400 written evaluations of last year's Festival, only 3 women involved with the "solidarity" actions took the time to write us, to confront us, to suggest concrete improvements for the Festival. Those 3 women's suggestions are being implemented, and wherever you are, we thank you!

The one open community meeting in the Bay Area barred Robin Tyler from attending and, for the most part, degenerated into further mistruths and allegations against the Festival, rather than presenting a clear list of demands and a program to implement them. Let us be clear: much of the multi-cultural networking at the Festival itself that grew out of the political cultural criticisms was exciting and positive and visionary. But after the Festival all too much time in this community was spent trashing, and not directly working to make changes. There was all too little sense of what revolutionaries must always be in touch with—that the process of growth takes time; that we must be both gentle with each other *and* we must directly confront each other with the truth of our experiences, with respect for the hard work, as well as for the issues we all agree must be dealt with. We need to look at the real situation of those organizations we are criticizing. The Festival is a business—a business made up of feminists who have gladly taken on the challenge of doing a balancing act, dedicated women who are trying to pave the way, to set a role model for the community, and prove that, unlike patriarchal businesses, we *can* and *will* include community services like disabled resources, child care, cultural and political representations, and STILL try to meet the demands of an unavoidably enormous budget for a one-shot annual event. And, on the financial success of this event rests the financial livelihood of many women, and the dreams and partial livelihood of many, many others.

And, perhaps more importantly, there are more than one or two ways to "correctly" run a Festival. Just because we don't agree with some outspoken women in the community about how to run the Festival doesn't mean we are wrong. Accountability is a two-way street. The new feminist secretarianism that screams only MY right can be YOUR right way is not Community Accountability. We find ourselves fighting in the Movement not only against Patriarchal domination, but against the oppression of "sisters" in the movement who have made themselves the self-appointed politically correct police force...What makes them think that there is only *one* path, and gives them the *right* to persecute others on any other path?

The time has come to suspend our internalized oppression that leads to horizontal hostility—to attacking each other's projects and dreams. We at the Festival *welcome* criticism that works to build the Festival. We do NOT welcome organizing against us in the name of fighting racism and classism BEFORE checking out the facts, BEFORE an honest attempt to build coalition, BEFORE any dialogue that could clarify real difference *and* common issues. We'd like to point out that Old Wives Tales REFUSED to meet with us before printing their flyer....

We believe that the time has come to stop infighting with a fierceness that should be reserved for our real enemies. Yes, the Festival in both of its first two years made mistakes. So what? If we don't allow each other the freedom to make mistakes, we take away each other's ability to grow. The growing Right wing in this country is in control, and where nuclear war is a far bigger threat than a radical lesbian community's imperfections, our changes, our growth, is a slow but steady process. Join us Sept. 8th at the Community Meeting at the Women's Building, and join us Sept. 23-26 at this year's Festival.

—From the Staff of the Festival